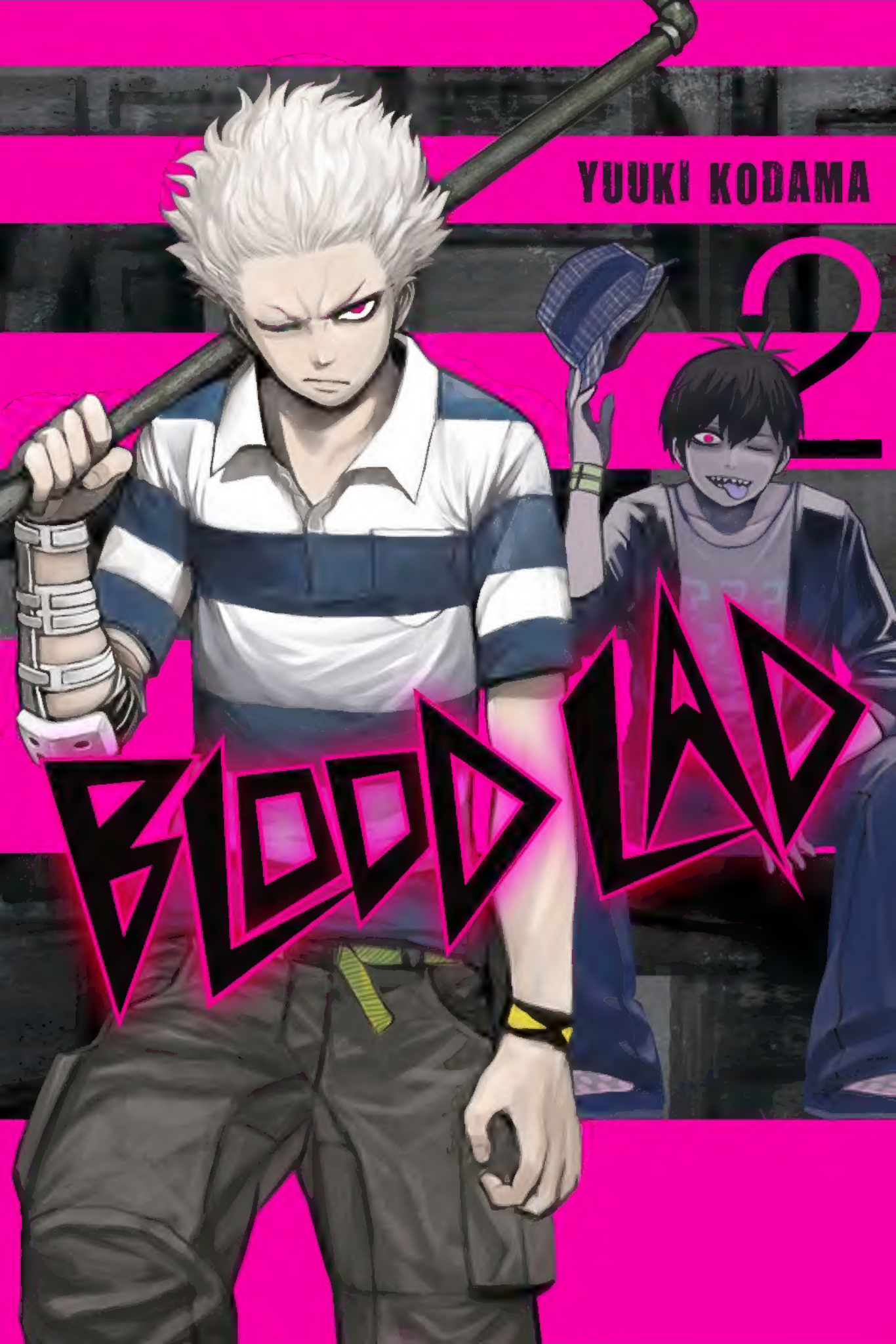
YUUKI KODAMA
2
BLOOD LAD

BLOOD LAD
I DUNNO ...
BUT...
SOMEBODY THE BOSS KNOWS?
...WHO... IS THAT ...?
...IT SURE DOES LOOK INTENSE...
HN...

BLOOD LAD

CHAPTER 6 ♠
A MATCH YOU CAN'T LOSE

CHAPTER 6 ♠
A MATCH YOU CAN'T LOSE

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カラン
KARAN
カラン
KARAN (CLANG)
SHIRT: OGRE
OW!
DOSA (THUD)

GASHI (GRAB)
FANCY MEETIN' YOU WAY OVER HERE.
AND THERE I WENT BREAKIN' YOUR CAB! SORRY ABOUT THAT.
HAH. YOU HAVEN'T CHANGED.
HOW YA DOIN'!?
BEEN A LONG WHILE, AIN'T IT, STAZ!!?
IT'S FINE. ACTUALLY, I WAS COMING TO SEE YOU.
SAVED ME SOME TIME.
SFX: WANA (TREMBLE) WANA
.....
...WHEN HE'S SO COLD TO HIS LOYAL MINIONS !?
LOOKS LIKE THEY'RE ON GOOD TERMS.
I CAN'T BELIEVE IT...WHY IS BOSS WOLF ALL HAPPY TO SEE THIS GUY...?

IF YOU DO, CAN YOU LET ME SEE IT?
RIGHT. I HEARD YOU HAD IT.
WHAT?
THE BOOK OF HUMAN RESURRECTION?
BUT MAYBE YOUR AUTHORITY AS BOSS COULD COME IN HANDY HERE?
NOT SO MUCH.
YOU THINK I READ COMPLICATED STUFF LIKE THAT?
EVEN COMIN' FROM AN OLD FRIEND, THAT'S A MIGHTY TALL ORDER.
I DON'T THINK I FEEL LIKE DOIN' IT... FOR FREE.
HAH!
YOU'RE SERIOUSLY ASKIN' ME THIS?
I WAS HOPING YOU COULD LOOK AROUND YOUR TERRITORY FOR WHOEVER HAS THE BOOK.
MOST OF DEMON WORLD WEST IS MINE, Y'KNOW.
JACKASS. DO YOU HAVE ANY IDEA OF THE SIZE OF THE TERRITORY I'M RULIN' NOW?

YEAH.
I FIGURED YOU'D SAY SOMETHING LIKE THAT.
IF I WIN, YOU LOOK FOR THE BOOK.
AND IF YOU WIN...
UUH...
HOW ABOUT WE DECIDE THIS...
...THE USUAL WAY?
...THIS GIRL'S YOURS.
HUH?

SO YOU BROUGHT HER TO WAGER WITH?
I WAS WONDER-ING WHAT YOU WERE DOIN' WITH HER...
YUP.
QUIT YOUR WHINING.
WH-WHAT? WHAT'S THAT SUPPOSED TO MEAN?
.....
NO... UMM ...
OH... OHH?
URP!
...I GUESS, IF SHE'S ALL YOU GOT TO WAGER WITH.
WELL, THAT AIN'T USUALLY MY THING, BUT...

AAA BLARG!
TOSHAAA (SPLOOSH)
.....
AHEM.
SO, THEN, WE HAVE A DEAL.
DA (DASH)
DA
SHAA
I-IS THAT SO... FUNNY GIRL, AIN'T SHE...?
SHE JUST DOES THAT WHEN SHE GETS EXCITED...
N-NO...
WAS I THAT GROSS JUST NOW?
PLAYING A GAME WITH ME AS THE PRIZE!!?
JUST WHAT DO YOU THINK YOU'RE DOING!?

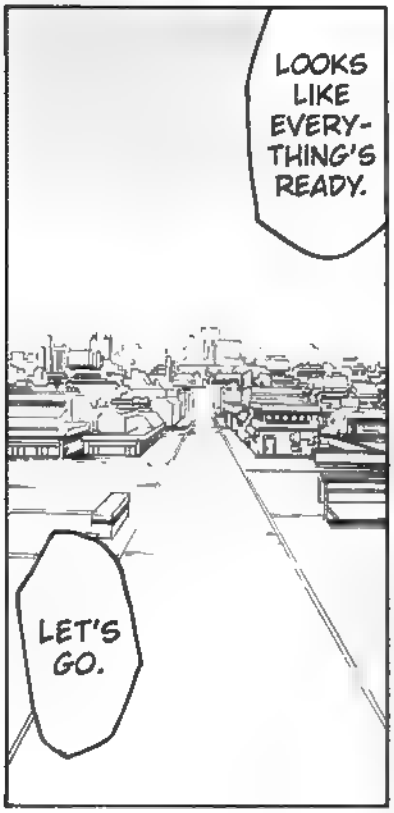
TH... THAT'S NOT EVEN THE POINT...
IT WAS PRETTY TOUGH TO COVER UP FOR THAT, LEMME TELL YOU.
WELL, GOOD THING WOLF IS STILL INTERESTED IN YOU ANYWAY, LIKE I WAS HOPING.
WHAT'RE YOU DOING?
YOU FINALLY PUKED WITH THE WORST POSSIBLE TIMING.
HE DOESN'T KNOW IT...
...BUT I CAN DECIDE EXACTLY HOW THIS MATCH'LL GO.
GAN (SHOCK)
HE ALWAYS DID HAVE A THING FOR PATHETIC GIRLS.
FORGET THAT, WHAT'S THIS MATCH GOING TO BE?
IT'S PRETTY MUCH IMPOSSIBLE FOR ME TO LOSE.
KARAN (CLINK)
SINCE YOU PUT UP FUYUMI AS YOUR WAGER, THAT MEANS IT'S SOMETHIN' YOU'RE PRETTY SURE YOU CAN WIN, RIGHT?
PRETTY MUCH...

KAKKOON (SMASH)
BOWLING!?
YEP.
JUST A MINUTE, HERE!
I DON'T KNOW HOW GOOD YOU ARE...
...BUT AREN'T THERE A WHOLE BUNCH OF THINGS THAT COULD GO WRONG?
I'M THE TYPE TO USE MAGIC THAT FLOWS.
URI (VMM)
URI
WITHIN A RADIUS OF A FEW TENS OF METERS FROM MYSELF...
...I CAN USE LOTS OF DIFFERENT ATTACKS, WHATEVER THE SITUATION CALLS FOR.
BI BI BI (BZZ)
AND WOLF IS THE TYPE WHO USES ALL HIS MAGIC TO STRENGTHEN HIS OWN BODY.
SUKA (THWAK)
BOKA
BOKA (WHAP)
HE STICKS TO THIS PRIMITIVE STYLE...
...OF JUST RUNNING UP TO AN OPPONENT AND WHALING ON THEM.
YOU'D THINK SO.
BUT WOLF AND I ARE DIFFERENT TYPES OF DEMONS.

BUT I'LL BE ABLE TO CONTROL THE BALL AS IT'S MOVING AND THE PINS TOO.
WOLF WON'T BE ABLE TO DO ANYTHING MORE THAN HURL THE BALL AS HARD AS HE CAN.
IN BOWLING, YOU THROW THE BALL AND TRY TO KNOCK OVER THOSE FAR-AWAY PINS.

I PRETEND TO LOSE FOR A BIT AND MAKE IT LOOK LIKE A GOOD GAME.
THAT'S WHY I SAID I CAN DECIDE HOW IT GOES.

I CAN'T BELIEVE HE WOULDN'T HAVE CAUGHT ON TO THAT.
THAT'S NO FUN TO WATCH!
IF I FEEL LIKE IT, I CAN JUST GET A STRIKE EVERY SINGLE TURN.


LOOKS LIKE EVERY-THING'S READY.
LET'S GO.

KUI (JAB)
KUI
BUT I WIN IN THE END...
OOPS.

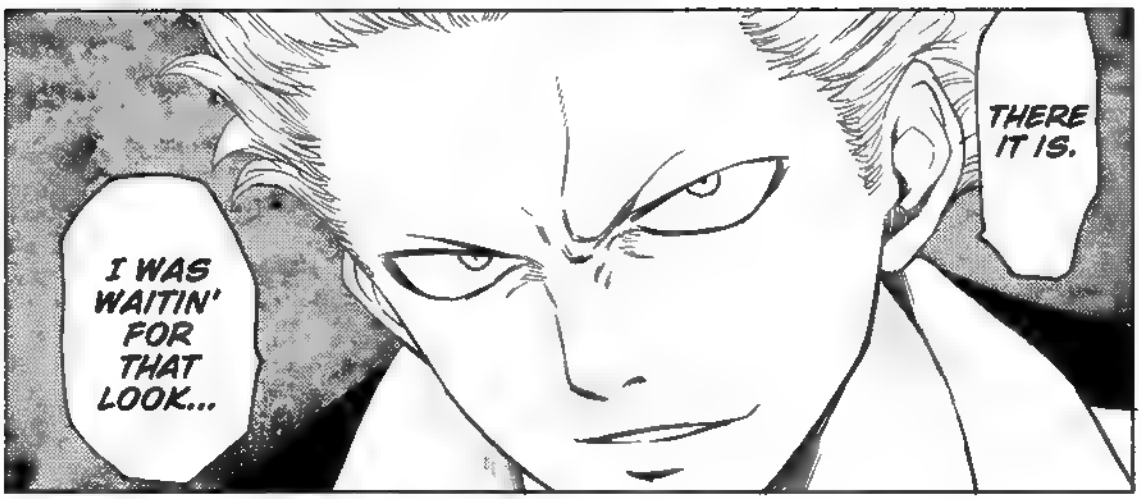
オオオオオオオ
OOOOOOO (ROOOOOAR)
OOOOOO
BAN (BAM)

HEY, HEY, HEY...
NICE RING, THOUGH, AIN'T IT?
SORRY THAT TOOK SO LONG.
IT WAS A BIT OF TROUBLE BOOKIN' THIS PLACE.
WHAT ARE YOU SAYIN'?
THIS ISN'T THE PLACE WE'RE HAVING OUR MATCH, IS IT?
YOU GOT IT WRONG, WOLF-KUN.
...THROUGH BOXING?
LOOK, YOU GOTTA BE ABLE THROW THE BALL LIKE THIS AND...
UH-HUH.
AIN'T WE ALWAYS SETTLED OUR DIFFER-ENCES...
.....

TRYING TO PULL ONE OVER ON ME ...
IF IT'S NOT BOWLING, I'M NOT PLAYING.
THEN I RECKON THAT MEANS YOU FORFEIT.
THEY GOT AN INTEREST IN THIS TOO.
THEY'RE ALL WAGERING ON WHO'S GONNA WIN A BOXING MATCH BETWEEN YOU AND ME.
WHAT?
YOU'RE ALREADY IN THE RING.
IN FRONT OF ALL THE SPECTATORS HERE TO SEE US FIGHT.
SO IF YOU STEP DOWN NOW...
...EVEN IF YOU DON'T THINK YOU'RE THE LOSER...
...THE BOOING CROWD WILL SAY OTHERWISE.

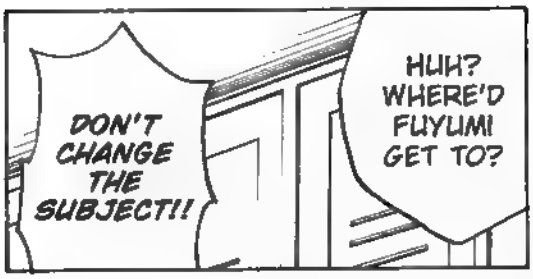
AND THAT I'M IN YOUR TERRITORY.
I FORGOT HOW YOU PULL CRAP LIKE THIS.
.....
IS THAT HOW IT IS...?
PRETTY IMPRESSIVE HOW MANY OF THESE GOONS YOU ROUNDED UP.
WOULD'VE BEEN NICE IF YOU'D PUT IN THE SAME EFFORT LOOKING FOR THAT BOOK...

...HOW IT LOOKS WHEN THEIR OWN BOSS LOSES.
SO I'LL JUST HAVE TO SHOW THESE GUYS...

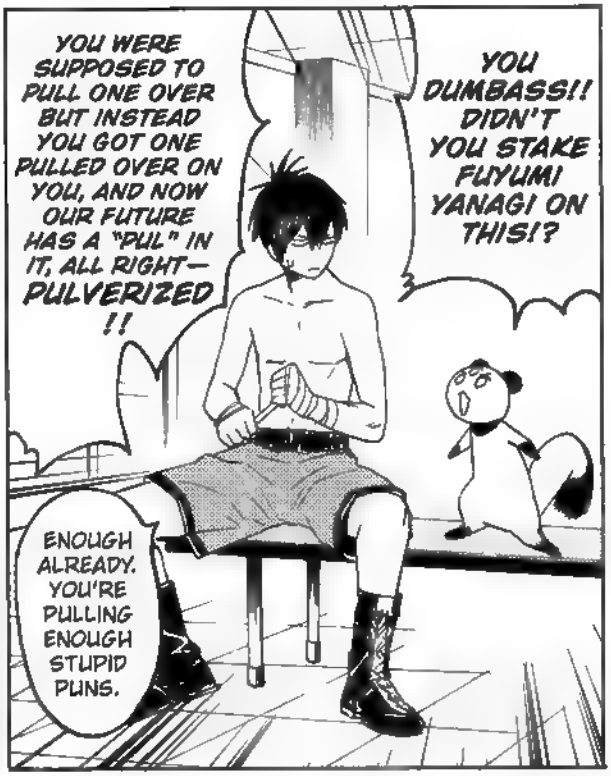

I WAS WAITIN' FOR THAT LOOK...
THERE IT IS.

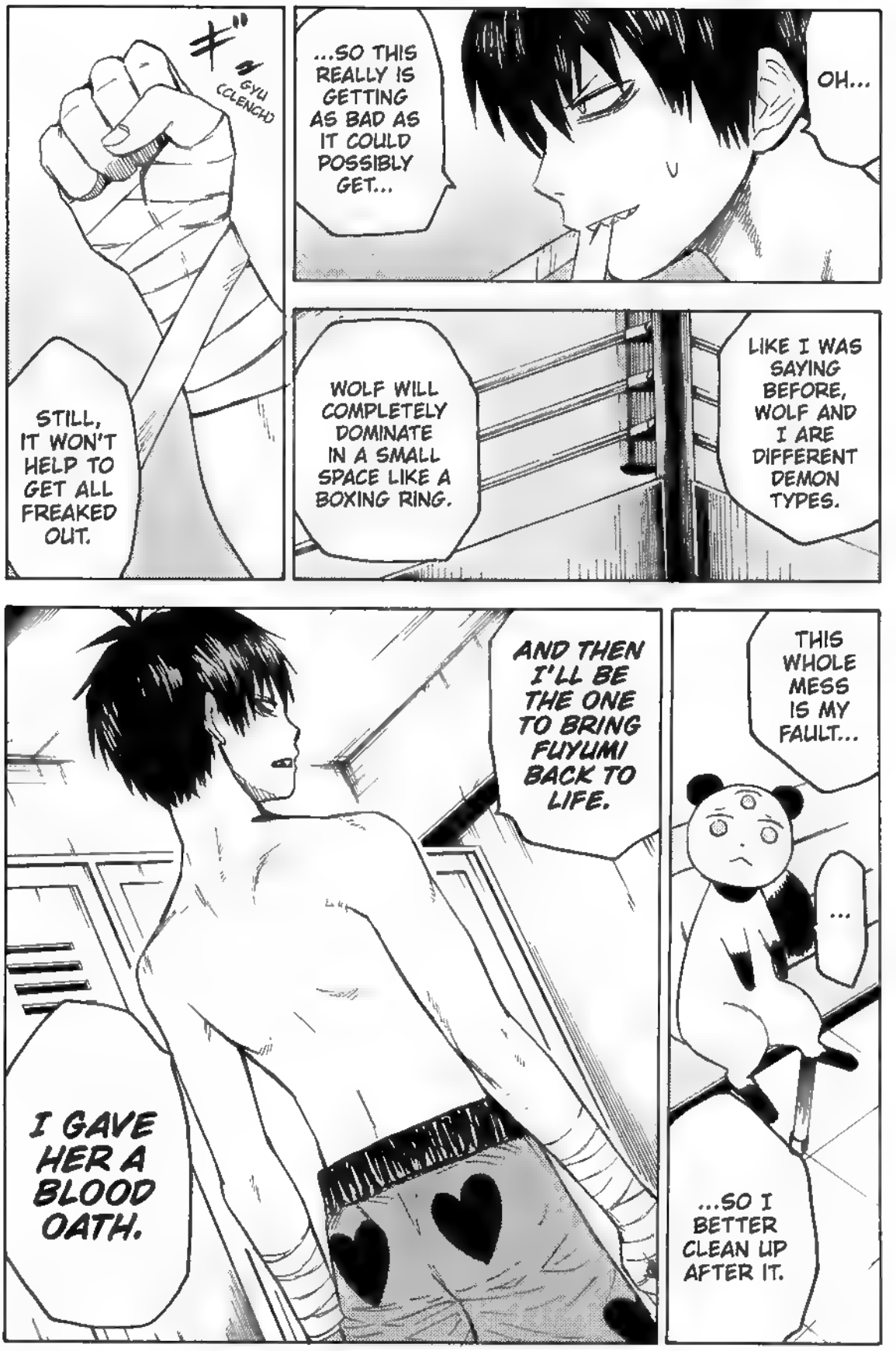
ONCE YOU'RE READY, THE GAMES BEGIN!

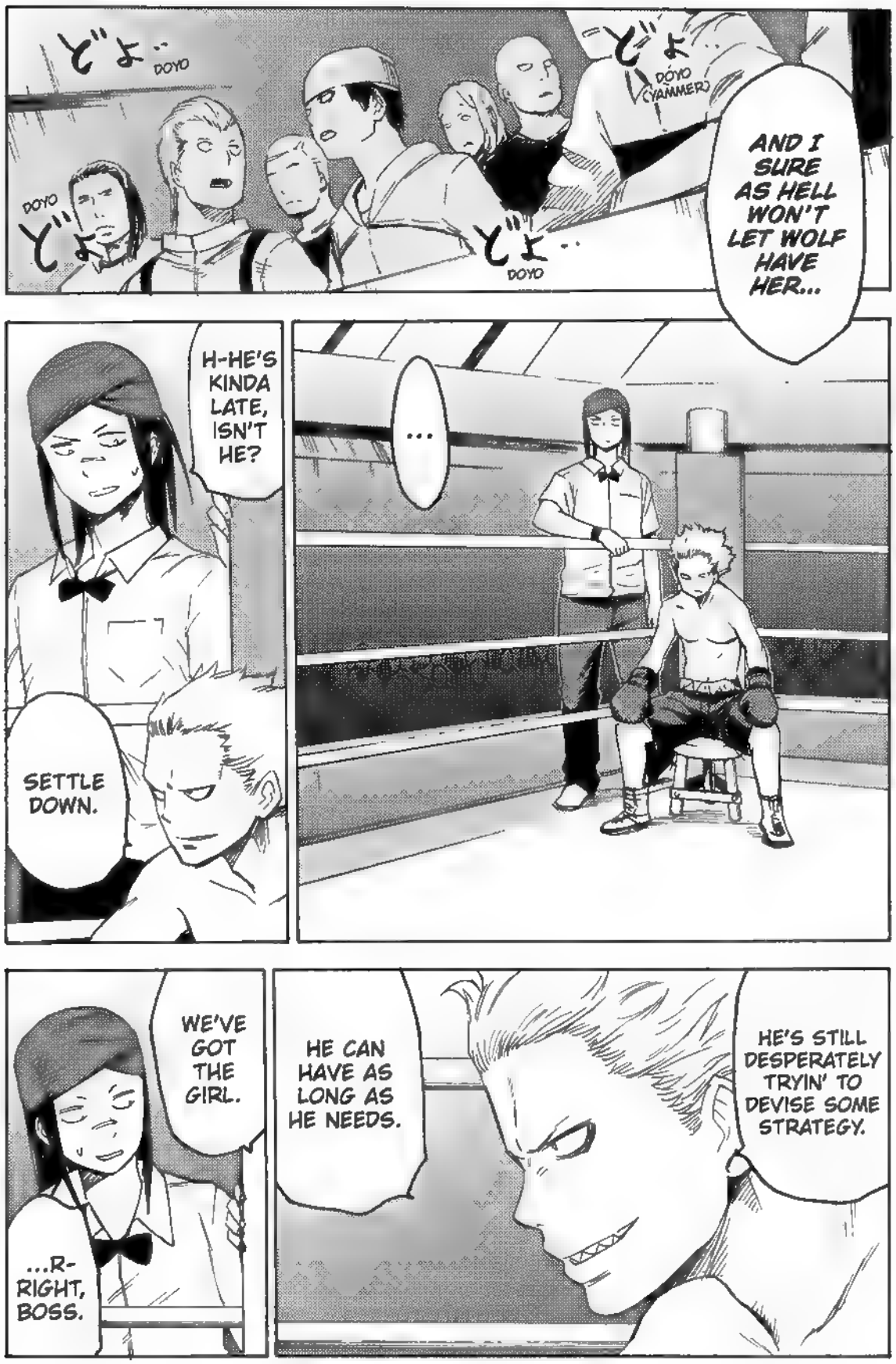
THEN THEY GOT MORE IN COMMON THAN I THOUGHT ...
THE ONLY THING BOWLING AND BOXING GOT IN COMMON IS THAT THEY BOTH START WITH "BO" AND END WITH "ING"!!
THE HELL'S GOING ON NOW!?

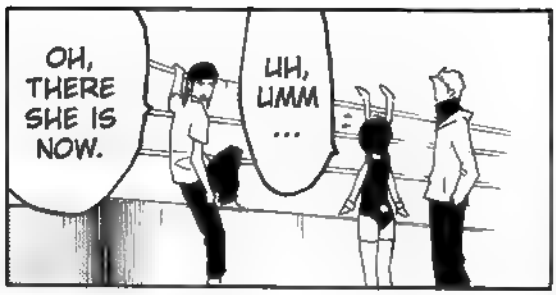

DON'T CHANGE THE SUBJECT!!
HUH? WHERE'D FUYUMI GET TO?

SOME GUYS CARTED HER OFF WHILE YOU WERE TALKIN' TO WOLF...
...PROBABLY BECAUSE IT'D BE A PROBLEM IF THE "PRIZE" RAN AWAY.

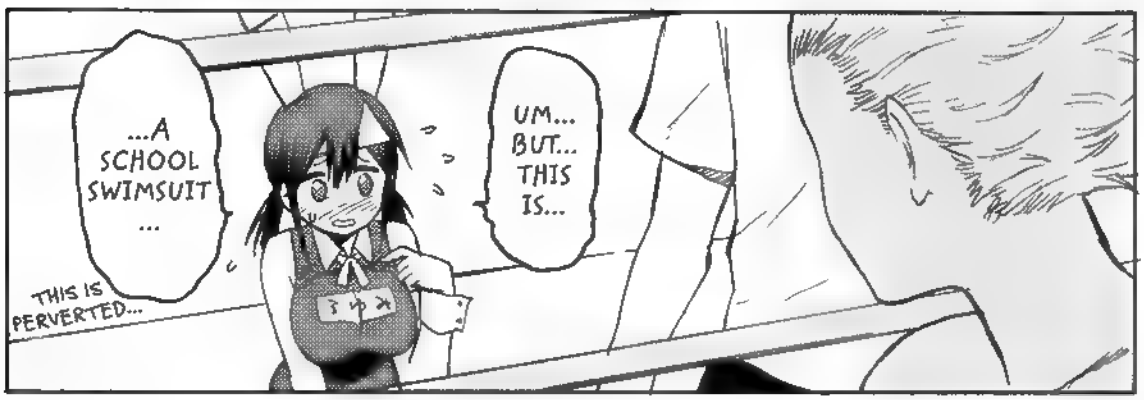

YOU WERE SUPPOSED TO PULL ONE OVER BUT INSTEAD YOU GOT ONE PULLED OVER ON YOU, AND NOW OUR FUTURE HAS A "PUL" IN IT, ALL RIGHT— PULVERIZED !!
YOU DUMBASS!! DIDN'T YOU STAKE FUYUMI YANAGI ON THIS!?
ENOUGH ALREADY. YOU'RE PULLING ENOUGH STUPID PUNS.


GYU (CLENCH)
STILL, IT WON'T HELP TO GET ALL FREAKED OUT.
...SO THIS REALLY IS GETTING AS BAD AS IT COULD POSSIBLY GET...
OH...
WOLF WILL COMPLETELY DOMINATE IN A SMALL SPACE LIKE A BOXING RING.
LIKE I WAS SAYING BEFORE, WOLF AND I ARE DIFFERENT DEMON TYPES.
I GAVE HER A BLOOD OATH.
AND THEN I'LL BE THE ONE TO BRING FUYUMI BACK TO LIFE.
THIS WHOLE MESS IS MY FAULT...
...
...SO I BETTER CLEAN UP AFTER IT.


どよ..
DOYO
どよ..
DOYO
どよ..
DOYO
どよ..
DOYO
DOYO CYAMMER)
AND I SURE AS HELL WON'T LET WOLF HAVE HER...
H-HE'S KINDA LATE, ISN'T HE?
SETTLE DOWN.
...
WE'VE GOT THE GIRL.
...R-RIGHT, BOSS.
HE CAN HAVE AS LONG AS HE NEEDS.
HE'S STILL DESPERATELY TRYIN' TO DEVISE SOME STRATEGY.



NAME TAG: FUYUMI



WHA... BOSS!?
ARE YOU OKAY!?
BOTO
ボト ボト
BOTO (DRIP)
BUBA (SPURT)
LIKE THAT WOULD TRIGGER THAT KIND OF REACTION? YOU THINK THIS IS SOME CHEESY SHOUNEN MANGA OR SOMETHING?
I-IS HE GETTING EXCITED OVER THE GIRL!?
YOU IDIOT.
...REAL TROUBLE ...
SHE'S TROUBLE ...
FUKI (WIPE)
FUKI
THIS GIRL IS TROUBLE.
GUSHI (RUB)
GUSHI
I'VE BEEN THINKIN' IT SINCE I FIRST SAW HER.

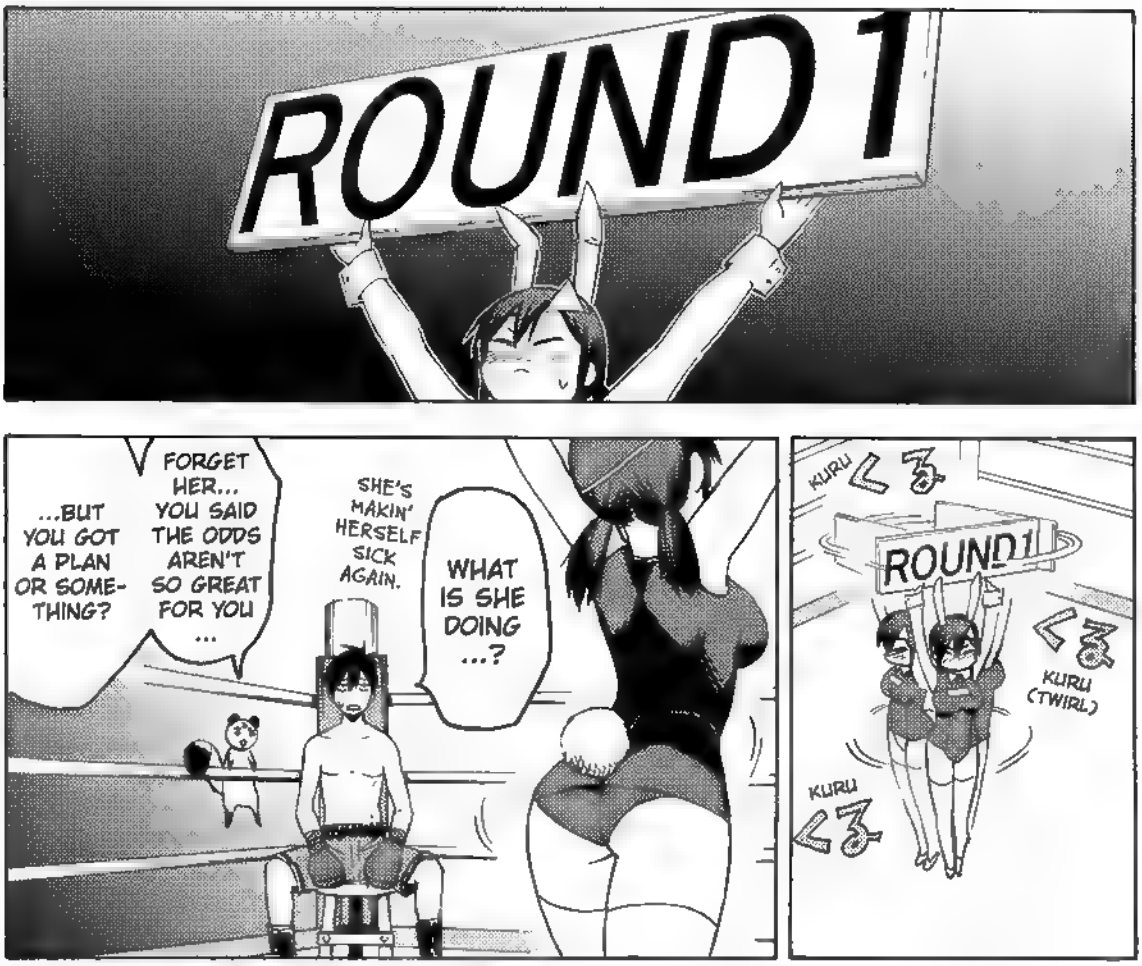
I WANNA PROTECT HER!!
CUTE... SO DAMN CUTE...
...SO HELPLESS THERE'S NO WAY SHE'D EVER SURVIVE ON HER OWN IN THE DEMON WORLD.
SHE'S GOT THIS LOOK ABOUT HER LIKE A SMALL ANIMAL...
ピョコ
PYOKO (POP)
A BUNNY RABBIT.
HERE WE GO...
...NO WAY I'M LETTING HIM WIN!

DODON
(BABOOM)
WELL, WELL.
ABOUT TIME YOU MADE IT OUT HERE, CHERRY-BLOOD.
ZA
(STRIDE)
SORRY TO KEEP YOU WAIT-ING.
WOLF-BOY.

All right, then...
I WILL END YOU.

Three minutes to a round. Down three times or for a count of ten, and you lose.
So..... Um...
...I'll explain the rules of this boxing match.
Now that our contenders are both present ...

... unlimited rounds!!
It'll continue until one of our contenders is knocked out...
OOOOO (RÖÖÖAR)
And there are no judges scoring this match.


ROUND 1
WHAT IS SHE DOING ...?
SHE'S MAKIN' HERSELF SICK AGAIN.
FORGET HER... YOU SAID THE ODDS AREN'T SO GREAT FOR YOU ...
...BUT YOU GOT A PLAN OR SOME-THING?
KURU
ROUND 1
KURU (TWIRL)
KURU
WELL, KIND OF A LONG SHOT...
...BUT I'LL HAVE TO GO FOR IT.
WHAT ARE YOU, A BABY?
'COURSE I DO.
IF I REALLY THOUGHT IT WAS HOPELESS, I'D BE CRYING AND SCREAMING TO GET OUT OF IT.

MAN, WHAT A DAY.
NOW, BOTH OF YOU...
...LET'S SEE A GOOD, CLEAN FIGHT.

GLOVES UP!!
CLANG!!

BOX!!

!
ZA (SKID)
ZA
ZA
ZA
ZA
ZA
SCARED, ARE YA?
WHAT'S THE MATTER, STAZ?
...with a grand retreat!!
Whoa! Staz has opened ...

NOW, FUYU-MI!!
I'LL JUST HAVE TO COME AND GETCHA!!
GYUO (ZOOM)
WHAT!?
DO THAT THING WE TALKED ABOUT!!
UH...
!!
GASHI (GRAB)

Is he planning to be on the defensive for the whole match!?
And now Staz clinches!!
H-HEY, GET OFF!!
WHAT THE HELL'RE YOU GUYS UP TO!?
...DID WE TALK ABOUT ...?
BUT WHAT "THING" ...
DOKI ドキ
ドキ DOKI (BADMP)
I DUNNO WHAT YOU'RE TRYIN' TO DO...
...BUT YOU SURE AS HELL WON'T BEAT ME THAT WAY.
YOU BEST QUIT YOUR FOOLIN' AROUND...
CHILL. WE JUST CARRIED OUT OUR PLAN.
PURA プラ
プラ PURA (WIGGLE)
AND NOW I'M UNBEATABLE.

UNBEAT-ABLE, HUH?
HA HA!
BOX!!
PAAN (WHAM)
...UNBEAT-ABLE...?
YOU OUGHTA SAVE...
UNBEAT-ABLE...

...TILL AFTER YOU THROW A PUNCH LIKE THIS.

...A BALLSY LINE LIKE THAT...

DOPA (POW)

...A BALLSY LINE LIKE THAT...
DOPA (POW)

...TILL AFTER YOU THROW A PUNCH LIKE THIS.

GAKUN (SLUMP)
DOTA (THUD)
IT'S A...

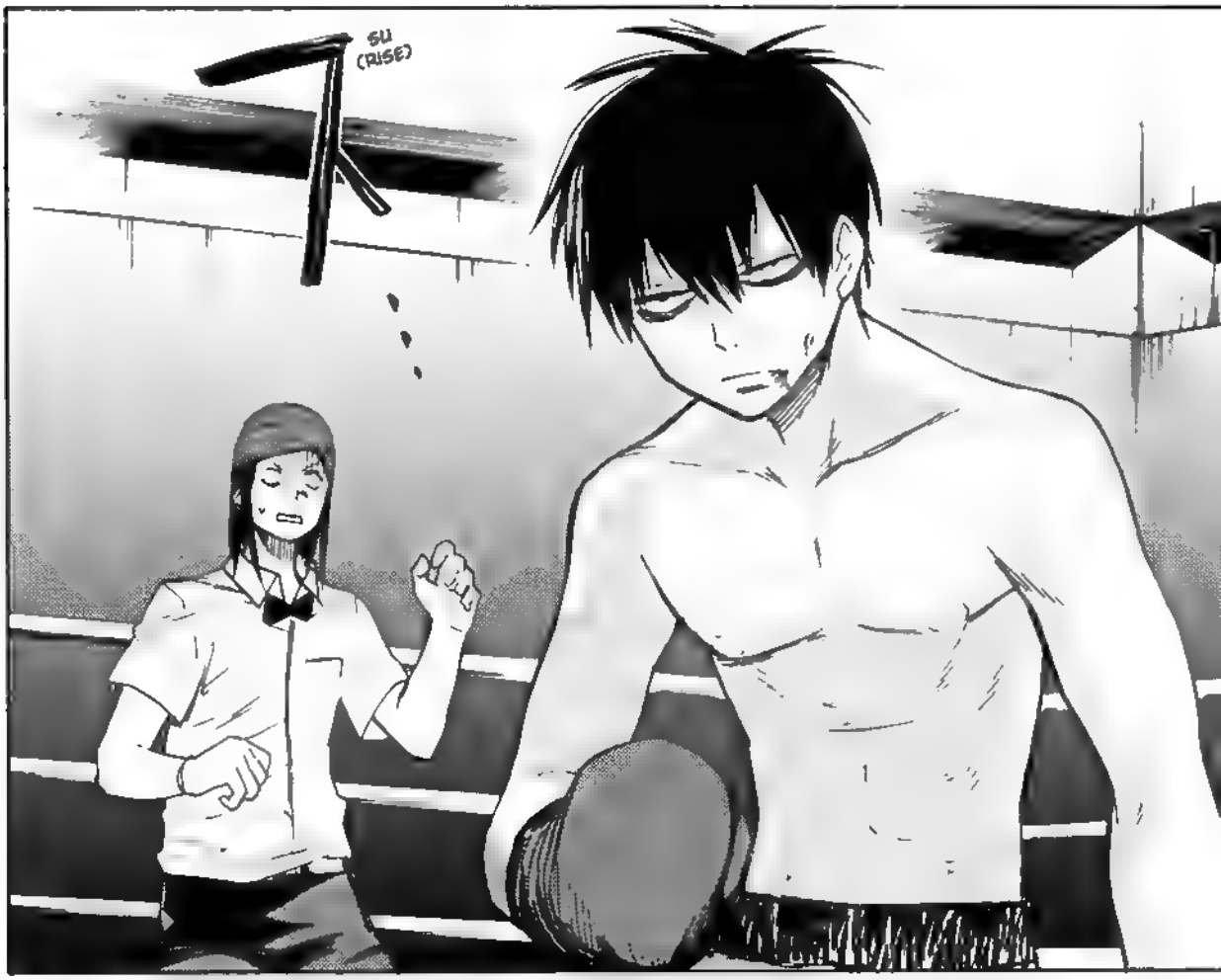
...KNOCKDOWWWN!!
ONE HIT!! HE'S DOWN WITH ONE HIT!!
どよ
DOYO
どよ
DOYO (RABBLE)
どよ
DOYO
どよ
DOYO
Here's the count!!
ONE!
TWO!
THREE!
FOUR!

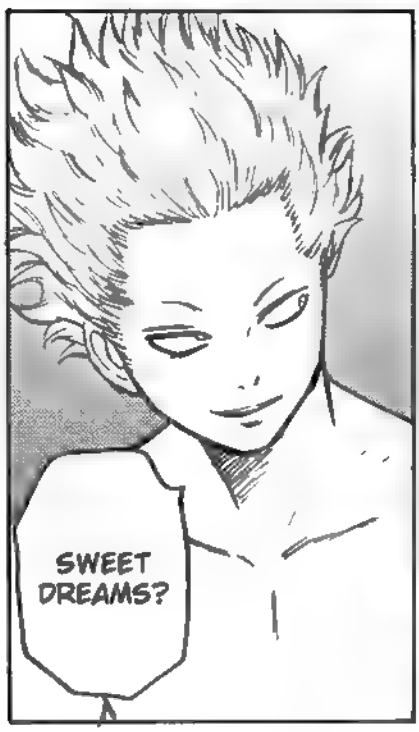
♠ To Be Continued ♠

OH, HEY, A TEXT FROM MY FRIEND IN WEST...
APPAR-ENTLY THERE'S A BIG BOXING MATCH GOING ON OVER THERE.
HUH.
KACHA (TAP)
SPEAKIN' OF OUT WEST, I WONDER WHAT THE BOSS AND FUYUMI ARE UP TO NOW...
...AW, CRAP, THIS IS HARD!
KACHA
SFX: DO (BOOP) DO DO

BLOOD LAD

CHAPTER 7 ◆ THE PAYBACK PLAN
どよ
どよ..
DOYO
DOYO (YAMMER)
どよ..
SEVEN!
どよ
EIGHT!
どよ
どよ
NINE!
STAZ!!


SU
(RISE)


SWEET DREAMS?

A-and Staz is back up!!
Right at the last second!!

CHAPTER 7 ♠ THE PAYBACK PLAN

WAS HE TAKIN' A BREAK ON PURPOSE ...?
PORI (CRUNCH)
ポリ
PORI
ポリ
ZAWA (MURMUR)
ザワ
THE HELL JUST HAP-PENED?
ZAWA
ザワ
ZAWA
ザワ
HE JUST GOT UP ALL SUDDEN-LIKE...
I THOUGHT WE WERE DONE FOR!!
DAMMIT, STAZ! YOU ABOUT GAVE ME A HEART ATTACK!!
YEAH, YEAH, SORRY.
BAN (BANG)
BAN

BOX!!
THIS FLOOR IS WAY COMFIER THAN IT LOOKS...

SFX: GYU (CLENCH)
SA (STEP)
SHI (SHOO)
SHI
KYU (VWIP)
HYU! (F.WIP)
DOON (BOOM)
ZUZAAAA (SKIIID)
NI (GRIN)
GUH ...
BIRI (TWITCH)
BIRI

BUT YOU'RE ALREADY BETTER.
.....
YOU BUSTED YOUR ARM AND SOME RIBS THERE JUST FROM TRYING TO BLOCK ME?
JUST LIKE ALWAYS, IT'S PRETTY IMPRESSIVE HOW FAST YOU HEAL.
I COULD STAB YOU IN THE HEART, AND YOU'D JUST GET BACK UP IN A FEW SECONDS.
BUT SO WHAT?
!
SU (SLIP)
MUST BE...
...THAT VAMPIRE BLOOD OF YOURS...

GA
(WHACK)
...WHAT'S THAT GONNA GET YOU IN THE END!?
IF YOU JUST KEEP ON TAKIN' IT...

DOGA (WHAM)
GA
CAN'T WIN WITHOUT LANDIN' A PUNCH!
'COS EVERY TIME, I'LL JUST BASH YOUR FACE IN AGAIN!!
STAZ-SAN...
C'MON! HEAL, DAMMIT!
KEEP ON USIN' UP THAT MAGIC OF YOURS AND HEAL!!

STAZ'S STRENGTH WORKS BEST FROM A DISTANCE.
HE HAS TO PROJECT IT OUTSIDE HIMSELF TO USE IT, SO WHEN HE DOES, HIS BODY'S LEFT VULNERABLE.
...NOT LOOKIN' SO GOOD ...
HE'S NO MATCH AGAINST WOLF IN CLOSE-RANGE COMBAT.
NOW IT'S TAKING EVERYTHING HE'S GOT JUST TO HEAL HIMSELF!
BUT IF HE HAS TO KEEP DOING THAT, HE CAN'T ATTACK.
WHAT MAKES UP FOR HIS LOW DEFENSE IS HIS VAMPIRE BLOOD.
WITH HIS MAGIC, HE CAN RECOVER PRETTY MUCH INSTANTLY FROM THE DAMAGE HE TAKES.
AND WHEN THAT HAPPENS, HE WON'T EVEN BE ABLE TO HEAL HIMSELF.
OH NO...
WOLF IS WEARING HIM DOWN...
...AND AT SOME POINT STAZ IS GONNA RUN OUT OF MAGIC ...!!

D...DOWN!!
Staz is down for the second time!
...STAZ-SAN IS GOING TO DIE!?
DOSA (THUD)
THEN IF THIS KEEPS UP...
THREE!
NEZAWA
THIS IS PRETTY ONE-SIDED...
ZAWA
ANOTHER KNOCK-DOWN?
TWO!
NOT MUCH OF A MATCH TO HAVE MONEY RIDIN' ON...
ZAWA (MURMUR)
FOUR!
.....
And here's the count!
ONE!

THIS FIGHT DOESN'T MAKE ANY SENSE!!
FIVE!
YOU DON'T HAVE TO DO THIS ANYMORE, STAZ-SAN!! DON'T GET UP AGAIN!!
AREN'T YOU TWO FRIENDS !?
ユラ… YURA (SWAY)
YOU SEE WHAT'S HAPPENIN' HERE.
THE WAY THIS IS GOIN', YOUR MAGIC WON'T LAST THROUGH THIS ROUND.
SHE'S RIGHT, STAZ.
DON'T GET UP.

LOOKS LIKE SOMEBODY'S UNDEREST!-MATING ME.
Staz is back on his feet like nothing happened!!
He... He's up!!
DAMMIT, HE GOT UP...
.....
BOX!

...AND STARTED BLATHERIN' TO THAT GIRL ABOUT THE "PLAN."
WHEN YOU GOT ME IN A CLINCH ...
... YOU ...
WHAT, YOU THINK I AIN'T NOTICED!?
YOU BIT ME AND SUCKED OUT MY MAGIC.
THIS IS WHAT YOU WERE DOIN'.
RIGHT ...
...BUT I THINK YOU'LL GET IT SOON.
NO, JACK-ASS!
YOU'RE GONNA PROTEST ABOUT A RULE VIOLATION NOW?
OH? WHAT'S THIS?
I'M THE ONE BEIN' UNDER-ESTIMATED HERE.
YOU STEALIN' A LITTLE OF MY MAGIC ISN'T GONNA CHANGE A THING.

SOON, HUH...
PAGĪ- (POW)
YOU AIN'T GOT ENOUGH TIME LEFT...
KYU- (SQUEAK)
...FOR "SOON"!!
BOWA (BWAM)

HYU (FWIP)
BUO (PUNCH)
KH!
PAAN
WHAT ...?
M (GRR)
WAAAA (CHEER)
OOOOO (ROOOAR)
Whoa! Wow! What's happening here!!?
Suddenly both are locked in fierce competition!! What were they waiting for!?

GO GO GOOO!!
OOOO
DON'T WASTE TIME BLOCK-ING!!
LET 'IM HAVE IT!!
ALL RIGHT!! NOW IT'S STARTIN' TO LOOK LIKE A MATCH!
DOON (WHAM)
ZUZAAA (SKIIID)
I DON'T GET IT...
I DUNNO EITHER.
WH... WHAT'S GOING ON...?
BUT OBVI-OUSLY ...
...THIS IS DIFFERENT FROM BEFORE...!

カンKAN カンKAN
カンKAN カンKAN
KAN (CLANG)
And there's the bell!! The first round is over!!
WHAT THE HELL DID HE DO...?

トト
WHEW.
OOKA (PLUNK)
NO! NOT "WHEW" !!

BOTH CONTENDERS, PLEASE RETURN TO YOUR CORNERS!

I JUST GOT MY HANDS FULL WITH MY SELF-REGENERATION LIKE USUAL.
WHAT'S DIFFERENT IS WOLF.
I DIDN'T REALLY ...

EXPLAIN YOURSELF!
HOW DID YOU GET SO MUCH BETTER ALL OF A SUDDEN?

HUFF
HUFF
HUFF
HUFF
HUFF
HUFF
BECAUSE HE DRANK MY MAGIC?
NAH, THAT CAN'T BE RIGHT...
BASHA (SPLASH)
BASHA
SHIT. WHAT'S HAP-PENING TO ME?
WHY THE HELL AM I SO TIRED!?
SHUT UP!
...YOU OKAY, BOSS ...?
BUT ...
SHUT YOUR DAMN MOUTH AND JUST DUMP THAT WATER ON ME!!
NO WAY...!
I HARDLY FELT HIM DRAIN ANY MAGIC WHEN HE BIT ME.
SO THAT'S NOT WHEN HE SUCKED IT OUT ...!?
THAT BAS-TARD ...!!

ROUND TWO!
ZA (SHFF)
ROUND2
WAA (CHEER)
WAA
..... WELL...
オオオオオ
OOOOO (ROOOAR)
LOOKS LIKE YOU FINALLY NOTICED.
BOX!

YEP ...
NIKA (GRIN)
ニカ
...MY TOOTH.
OR RATHER... YOU'VE BEEN DRINKIN' IT!!
SO YOU WERE DRINKIN' MY MAGIC...
...EM-BEDDED IN MY SKIN!!
LEAVIN' THIS THING...
...WHICH IS THE SOLE SOURCE OF HIS STRENGTH, IS THE KEY.
SO TO BEAT WOLF IN A FIGHT, DRAINING HIS MAGIC ...
ALLOW ME TO EX-PLAIN.
AHEM.
HIS TOOTH !?
YOU SURE DO MAKE IT OBVIOUS WHERE YOU KEEP YOUR MAGIC.
SO I DREW IT OUT REMOTELY ...
ALL OF WOLF'S MAGIC IS SEALED IN HIS OWN BODY.
IN OTHER WORDS, HIS MAGICAL STRENGTH IS HIS PHYSICAL STRENGTH.

I CAN HEAL THE DAMAGE FROM YOUR ATTACKS WITH YOUR OWN MAGIC!!
I CALL IT THE ...
...CHEW-CHEW DRAIN!
I'VE STARTED ROUND TWO WITH ALL SYSTEMS GO!
NYOKI (CRICK)
ニョキッ
SO MY HEALTH BAR'S FULL!
YOU'VE STARTED THE SECOND ROUND WANTING TO RUN AWAY UNTIL YOU RECOVER.
GIRI (GRIT)
ON THE OTHER HAND, YOU'RE RUNNING ON EMPTY, THERE.

DOKO
(KAPOW)
ブオ
BUO
(VWOOM)
...HERE IN THIS RING THERE'S NOWHERE FOR YOU TO RUN TO.
...OF COURSE ...

PLAY-
BACK
PAY-
BACK.

H... he-he's... down!!
オオオオオ
OOOOO (ROOOOAR)
ONE!
.....
GU (STRAIN)
And... the count...
What a turn of events! Now the boss— Er...Wolf has been knocked down!
Psst! Ref! The count!!
BOSS ...!
DON'T GET UP, WOLF.
TWO!

...I'LL KILL YOU.
THAT IS...
THE STATE YOU'RE IN NOW, I COULD EVEN ZIP YOU.
IF YOU GET UP, YOU'LL DIE.
.....
BE (SPIT)
WHAT DO YOU WANNA DO THAT FOR?
GU
THERE'S SOMETHIN' ELSE, SOMETHIN' THE BOOK WILL GET YOU...
THE BOOK? IT CAN'T BE JUST THAT.
SOMETHIN' YOU WANT SO BAD YOU CAN'T EVEN STAND IT...!!
DO (DMM)
WHAT IS IT YOU'RE AFTER...?
SO TELL ME.

WHAT IS IT YOU WANT BAD ENOUGH...
...TO MAKE ME TAKE THIS FORM!? TELL ME, STAZ!!
DO
DO (DMM)
SO YOU'RE LETTING YOUR MAGIC OUT NOW...
BOSS ...!?
ANSWER ME.
GURURURURU (GRRRRR)
...YOU CAN ONLY TRANSFORM PARTWAY INTO YOUR TRUE SELF.
BUT WITHOUT ALL OF YOUR MAGIC...

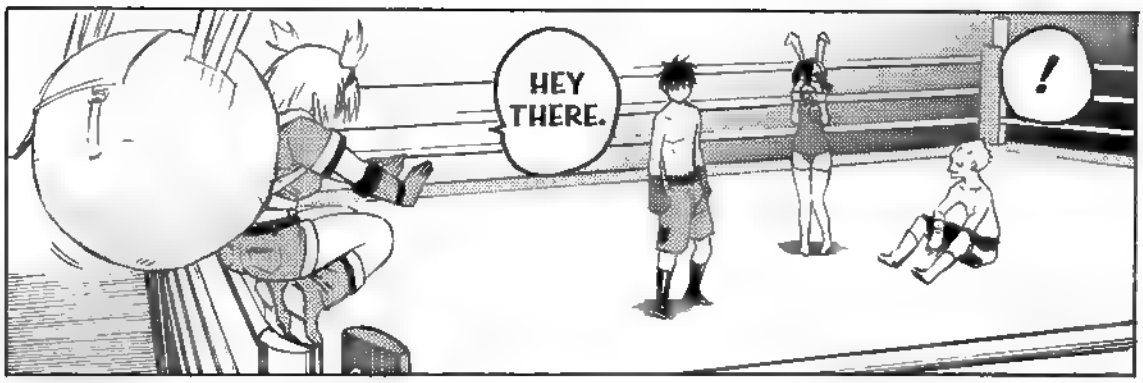
THERE WAS A...SITUATION, AND NOW SHE'S A DEMON. BUT ACTUALLY SHE'S A HUMAN.
I WANT TO CHANGE HER BACK TO HER ORIGINAL FORM.
THAT'S WHY I NEED THE BOOK.
...THE GIRL.
FUYUMI YANAGI.
YOU JUST WANNA CHANGE HER BACK?
YOU'RE KIDDIN', RIGHT?
YOU AIN'T THAT KINDA GUY.
YOU DON'T TRUST NOBODY BUT YOU, AND YOU DON'T DO NOTHIN' FOR NOBODY BUT YOU.
AFTER YOU BRING HER BACK TO LIFE, THEN WHAT?
JUST WHAT'RE YOU GONNA DO WITH A HUMAN GIRL, HUH, STAZ?

DOKUN (BADUMP)
YOU SHUT UP.
GUH ...
HA-HA-HA! SO THAT'S IT, HUH!
GICHI
GICHI
GICHI
GAH ...
GU
GU
GU
GU
GICHI (TWITCH)
GU (STRAIN)
SHUT UP.
OR I'LL CRUSH YOUR HEART.
SOME VAM-PIRE!!
WHO'S THE ONE NOT REVEALING HIS TRUE SELF!? HUH!?
THAT'S NONE OF YOUR DAMN BUSI-NESS.

YOU'RE YOU BEFORE YOU'RE A VAMPIRE? GIMME A BREAK ALREADY!!
AND WHEN THERE'S SOME TASTY-LOOKIN' PREY IN FRONT OF YOU, WELL, YOU'LL DO ANYTHING TO GET IT!!
YOU REJECT BEIN' A VAMPIRE, BUT WHEN IT COMES DOWN TO IT, YOU'LL RELY ON DRINKIN' BLOOD!!
I THOUGHT ...
YOU !DIOT! STOP!
!
IF YOU KEEP DOING THAT, HE'LL REALLY DIE...!!
PAAN (SLAP)
...I TOLD YOU TO SHUT IT, YOU STUPID MUTT.

WHAT KIND OF BOXING MATCH IS THIS?
THAT'S ENOUGH.
YOU'RE FRIENDS, AND YOU'RE HURTING EACH OTHER... BULLYING EACH OTHER...
THIS IS JUST A MEAN, NASTY FIGHT!
WHY ...

I DON'T UNDER-STAND THE DEMON WORLD...
...AND I DON'T KNOW VERY MUCH ABOUT YOU TWO.
BUT...
... WHY ...
...CAN'T YOU JUST BE NICE TO EACH OTHER?
...
EUH... EUH... UHHH... HICC!
...
OKAY, THAT'S IT!
... THIS ...
IT'S JUST WRONG ...



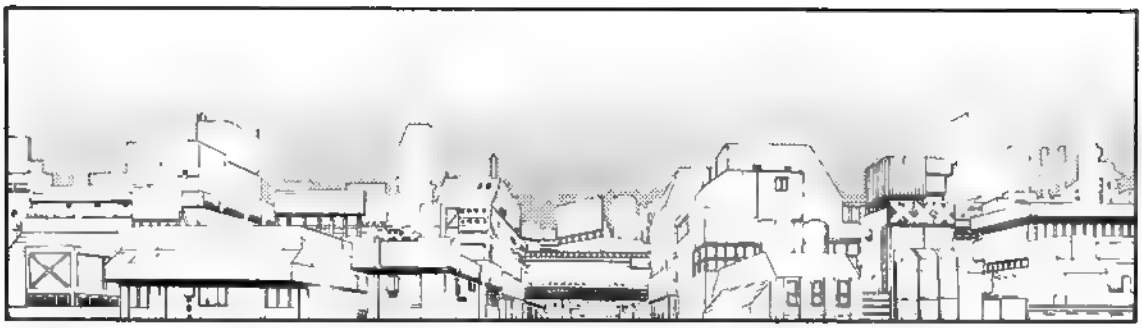
♠ To Be Continued ♠

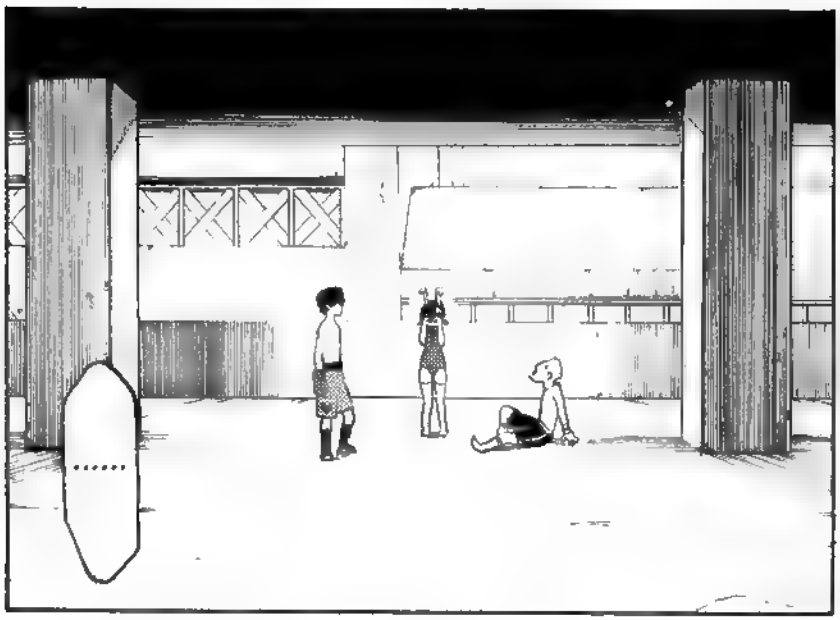
BLOOD LAD

CHAPTER 8 ♠ THE ACROPOLIS

WELL...
...MY CONCLUSION IS...
...YOU BOTH LOST.
I DON'T EVEN KNOW WHERE TO START WITH YOU TWO.
BUT...
...AT LEAST FOR ME, IT WASN'T A TOTAL LOSS. ★
SUU (VANISH)
!
ANY-WAY...
CHON (POKE)

...FROM THE FRAME... ER, RING.
...YOU'RE DISMISSED ...
PA (POOF)
WHA ...!
WELP ...
WHAT ABOUT THE MATCH ...!?
どよ DOYO (YAMMER)
WHAT JUST HAP-PENED!?
THEY... DISAP-PEARED ...
どよ.. DOYO
どよ.. DOYO
THANKS FOR COMING! ★
.....
THAT'S IT. FIGHT'S OVER.
Y'ALL ARE FREE TO LEAVE.

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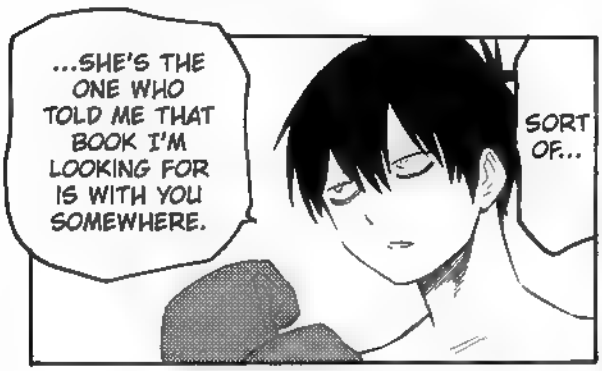

...SHE'S THE ONE WHO TOLD ME THAT BOOK I'M LOOKING FOR IS WITH YOU SOMEWHERE.
SORT OF...

... DUNNO.
WHERE ARE WE...?

AND SHE'S THE ONE WHO TURNED OUR BOWLING MATCH ...
.....
...INTO A BOXING MATCH.

PROBABLY SOMEWHERE IN THE DEMON WORLD.
SHE CHUCKED US HERE WITH TELEPORTA-TION MAGIC.
YOU KNOW THAT BROAD, STAZ?

YOU GUYS ARE HAVIN' A BOWLING MATCH?
WHILE YOU GUYS WENT TO WAIT AT THE DINER...
...SHE APPEARED IN FRONT OF US ALL OF A SUDDEN AND SAID ...
HUH!?
"SEEMS TO ME, YOU'D BE AT A MAJOR DISADVANTAGE," SHE SAID.
... SO ...
SAYIN' THEY COULD RIG THE MATCH IF BOWLING'S THE GAME.
NOTHIN', JUST I HEARD SOME PEOPLE IN THAT DINER TALKIN' ABOUT THE SAME THING.
.....
YEAH, SO?
...WHAT YOU'RE SAYING IS, BOTH OF US PLAYED RIGHT INTO HER HANDS.
SO...
SOUNDED LIKE A GOOD IDEA TO ME.
...THEN SHE PROPOSED BOXING.
.....
SO WHAT WAS SHE TRYIN' TO PULL?
BUT IN THE END, SHE SAID WE BOTH LOST...
I'LL ANSWER THAT MYSELF.
ZA (STEP)

パン
PACHIN (SNAP)
FU (POOF)
7 days
HUFF...
HUFF...
HUFF...
KARAN (CLATTER)
カラン
カラン
KARAN
カラン
KARAN
WHAT THE HELL !!?
WHERE'S OUR MONEY, ASS-HOLES!?
...HAVE ANY KIND OF A VICTORY?
HOW COULD I LET FELLAS WHO MAKE GIRLS CRY...

THE OUTCOME OF THE MATCH DOESN'T MATTER NOW.
WHAT WE WANNA KNOW IS WHY YOU SET UP A FIGHT BETWEEN ME AND WOLF.
NOT MUCH OF AN ANSWER.
DOKI (BADMP)
ドキ
YOU'RE OKAY!
OH! BOSS !!
YOU TWO ...
UH...IT'S HOT TODAY, HUH...
I MEAN..
ER, NO, THIS IS JUST ...
THOUGHT IT WAS ODD YOU WEREN'T IN THE RING, BEIN' A REF AND ALL, AND NOW HERE YOU ARE WITH A TOWEL...WHAT, WERE YA TAKIN' A BREAK?
.....

TEKETE (DADUNDA)
THIS ... THIS IS...
KEEN (DUUUN)
...THE BOOK OF HUMAN RESUR-RECTION !?
YEAH, WE'LL GET TO THAT LATER. ♪
MM...
WHAT DID YOU MEAN, IT WASN'T A TOTAL LOSS?
PASHI (GRAB)
!
POI (TOSS)
BUT FIRST... HERE YOU GO.
?
SHUT UP!!
EUHHH!
PLEASE STOP FIGHT-ING...
DO YOU EVER STOP CRYING !!?
YOU HAD THIS THING THE WHOLE DAMN TIME, DIDN'T YOU...?
... WHY, YOU...
FREE OF CHARGE, JUST FOR YOU.
HMPH!
WELL, OKAY, IF YOU DON'T WANT IT...
QUIT JERKIN' PEOPLE AROUND WITH THAT GIANT MARSH-MALLOW BAG OF YOURS!!
OF COURSE I WANT IT!! DUMBASS!!
.....
UHH-HK! ...HUH? WHERE ARE WE...?

.....

DON'T GET IT AT ALL.

WHEW!
PATAMLI (SHUT)

JUST LIKE I THOUGHT.
YEP.
SO THAT'S IT.

SO...
MM-HM, MM-HM ...
PARA (FLIP)
FINE, LET ME SEE...

CAN'T YOU GUYS READ?
WHAT'S THE DEAL?
HEY, MARSH-MALLOW.

OH, I KNOW!
AND THEN?
UH-HUH ...
COAT A SKILLET IN SESAME OIL... HEAT ON HIGH...
...DROP THE BURDOCK IN AND...
YEAH, YEAH. AND THEN?
POKU POKU POKU
POKU (QUIET)
WASH A BURDOCK ROOT IN WATER AND CHOP IT INTO THIN STRIPS, THEN DROP IT IN THE WATER ...
WHAT?
I KNOW HOW IT'S SET UP.
IT'S BRAISED BURDOCK ROOT, RIGHT?
YUP...
THIS IS TOTALLY INCOMPREHENSIBLE GARBAGE ...
WHAT'S UP WITH THIS BOOK...?
JUST A JUMBLED MESS, SOMETIMES NOT EVEN PROPER SENTENCES.
AT FIRST GLANCE, OF COURSE, THE CONTENTS DON'T MAKE ANY SENSE AT ALL.
...EVEN IF YOU KNOW HOW TO DECIPHER IT, ACTUALLY DOING IT WOULD TAKE A MILLION YEARS.
BASICALLY...
I HAVE NO IDEA WHAT YOU'RE TALKING ABOUT.
...UH-HUH.
SO TO DECIPHER IT, YOU HAVE TO TAKE ALL THE WORDS...
...PUT THEM IN THE RIGHT ORDER AND RECONSTRUCT IT.
I THINK THE ENTIRE BOOK IS A SORT OF ANAGRAM.

NOTE: BRAISED BURDOCK ROOT (KINPIRA GOBO) IS A COMMON SIDE DISH MADE OF JULIENNED CARROTS AND BURDOCK ROOT THAT YOU MIGHT GET AS A STARTER IN A RESTAURANT OR AS A SIDE IN YOUR BENTO BOX.

WHAT'S THE POINT OF MAKING A BOOK LIKE THIS...?
DOES IT EVEN SAY ANYWHERE WHO...
...WROTE IT?
SFX: PARA (FLIP) PARA
...THE TWISTED, SADISTIC MEGA-NERD WHO WROTE THIS NASTY PRANK OF A BOOK.
...IT'D BE FASTER TO JUST GO ASK ...
...SO, TO FIND OUT WHAT IT SAYS...
...WHO DID WRITE THIS?
PERA (FLIP)
SERI-OUSLY ...
BATAN (WHAP)
?
WHAT IS IT?
NO WAY IN HELL I CAN GO ASK...
WHAT'S THAT REACTION FOR?

THE HIGHER STRATUM OF THE DEMON WORLD...
DEMON WORLD ACROP-OLIS...
...WHERE ONLY THE RICH AND POWERFUL DEMONS CAN LIVE...
...THAT'S WHERE HE IS.

KA
CPLASH!
THE VAMPIRE ...
...BRAZ D. BLOOD.
HE'S...
ZURU (SLUMP)
...MY OLDER BROTHER ...

NO...THE THOUGHT OF HIM MAKES ME SICK...SO SNOBBY...
...NARCISSISTIC, ALL HIGH AND NOBLE... GIVES ME GOOSE BUMPS.
HOW GOOD CAN IT BE IF HE'S SHAKIN' LIKE THAT?
GATA
GATA (SHAKE)
IS... ISN'T THAT GOOD? IT'S SOMEBODY YOU'RE CLOSE TO!
SOOO?
BANNER: ACROPOLIS ENTRY!
TO GET IN, YOU HAVE TO BE FROM A LINE THAT'S CONQUERED EVERY TERRITORY— THE KINGS AMONG DEMONS!
殿堂入り!
YEAH. THE PLACE IS SO EXCLUSIVE, ONLY THE VIP DEMON HOUSES HAVE ACCESS.
IT IS?
BUT DEMON WORLD ACROPOLIS IS A REAL PAIN TO GET TO...
AIN'T A PLACE COMMONERS LIKE US CAN JUST UP AND GO TO.
BUT...
IT'S WHERE ...
...THOSE WHO MAKE THE RULES OF THE DEMON WORLD RESIDE, SO TO SPEAK.
IT'S HOME TO THE MOST POWERFUL FAMILIES ...
...WHO SIT AROUND DIVVYING UP THE WHOLE DEMON WORLD AMONG THEM.

...YOU CAN GET THERE.
...STAZ...

IT...IT'S ONE THING IF I GET SUMMONED, BUT OTHERWISE IT'S IMPOSSIBLE TO GET THERE FROM HERE.
THE HELL ARE YOU SAYIN'? JUST USE MARSHMALLOW'S TELEPORTATION OR WHATEVER.
HEY, DON'T GO MAKIN' THAT MY NICKNAME!

.....
YOU'RE A VAMPIRE. A NOBLE DEMON WITH A PROPER PEDIGREE.
AIN'T NO THING FOR YOU. JUST GOIN' BACK HOME FOR A VISIT.

WHAT D'YOU THINK'LL HAPPEN IF I SHOW MY FACE THERE NOW?
.....
BUT I RAN AWAY.
.....
IS THIS THE KIND OF GUY YOU ARE?
WHO DID THIS TO ME!? HUH?
WELL, LOOK AT MY FACE!
GA (GRAB)
!
BUT AS SOON AS YOUR BROTHER'S NAME COMES UP...
...THAT YOU WERE ALL READY TO ZIP ME!
YOU WANTED TO WIN SO BAD, AND YOU WANTED THAT THING SO BAD...
...YOU'RE JUST GONNA TURN TAIL AND RUN!?

I REALLY HATE PEOPLE WHO HALF-ASS THINGS.
GICHI
IF YOU SAY YOU'RE GONNA DO SOMETHING, THEN SEE IT THROUGH TO THE END!!
GICHI
GICHIGICHI (SQUEEZE)
LISTEN.
GOT IT, CHERRY-BLOOD!?
I-I GOT IT.
I GOT IT, OKAY...? LEMME... GO...
IT'S NOT CHERRY-BLOOD.
ZARI (SCRAPE)
KOFF!
KOFF!
MY NAME IS CHARLIE BLOOD...
STAZ CHARLIE BLOOD.

SORRY TO BREAK UP THE DRAMA HERE, BUUUT...
UMM ...
B-BUT THAT'S CRAZY TALK!
IF THAT GOT OUT, I WOULDN'T BE TOO LONG FOR THIS WORLD, YOU KNOW!
YEAH?
...IT SOUNDS LIKE I'M SUPPOSED TO TAKE HIM?
SO TAKE 'IM.
WELL, GET GOIN'.
IF I LOST BECAUSE I MADE A GIRL CRY, FINE...
...BUT I SURE AS HELL WILL MAKE A GIRL CRY IF SHE DON'T TAKE A GUY'S FEELINGS INTO ACCOUNT!!
DON'T GIMME THAT BULL-SHIT.
GA (GRAB)
HEY!
THANKS TO YOU I WAS ABOUT TO DIE IN A MEANINGLESS STUPID-ASS FISTFIGHT.

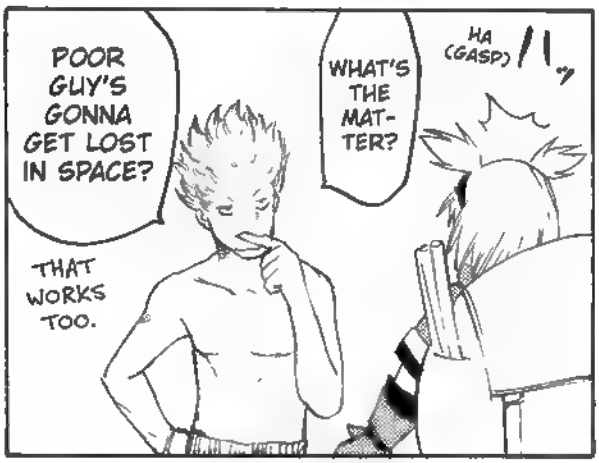
...HE'S PRETTY COOL...
NOW GET GOIN'.
ALL RIGHT.
... WE'RE GOING.
HE...
I'M LEAVIN' STAZ TO YOU.
ISO ISO (HURRY)
LATER.
SEE YA 'ROUND.
BOSO (WHISPER)
MAYBE... I'LL DEFECT AND GO WITH WOLF...
...DID YOU PLAN THIS WHOLE THING SO YOU COULD—
ACTUALLY, THAT WORRIES ME MORE THAN ANYTHING ...
WAIT...
DON'T WORRY. I'LL TAKE CARE OF FUYUMI WHILE YER GONE.

WHOOOA!
UH-OH.
YOU CAN CLOSE IT NOW.
FOREVER.
HEY!! YOU COULD AT LEAST DENY IT!!
DO (WHAM)
TAKE CARE NOW, STAZ!!

THANKS, WOLF!
NAH, IT'S NOTH-ING.

HE'S JUST GONNA END UP IN MY...
IT... IT ISN'T CONNECT-ED YET.

?


POOR GUY'S GONNA GET LOST IN SPACE?
THAT WORKS TOO.
WHAT'S THE MAT-TER?
HA (GASP)

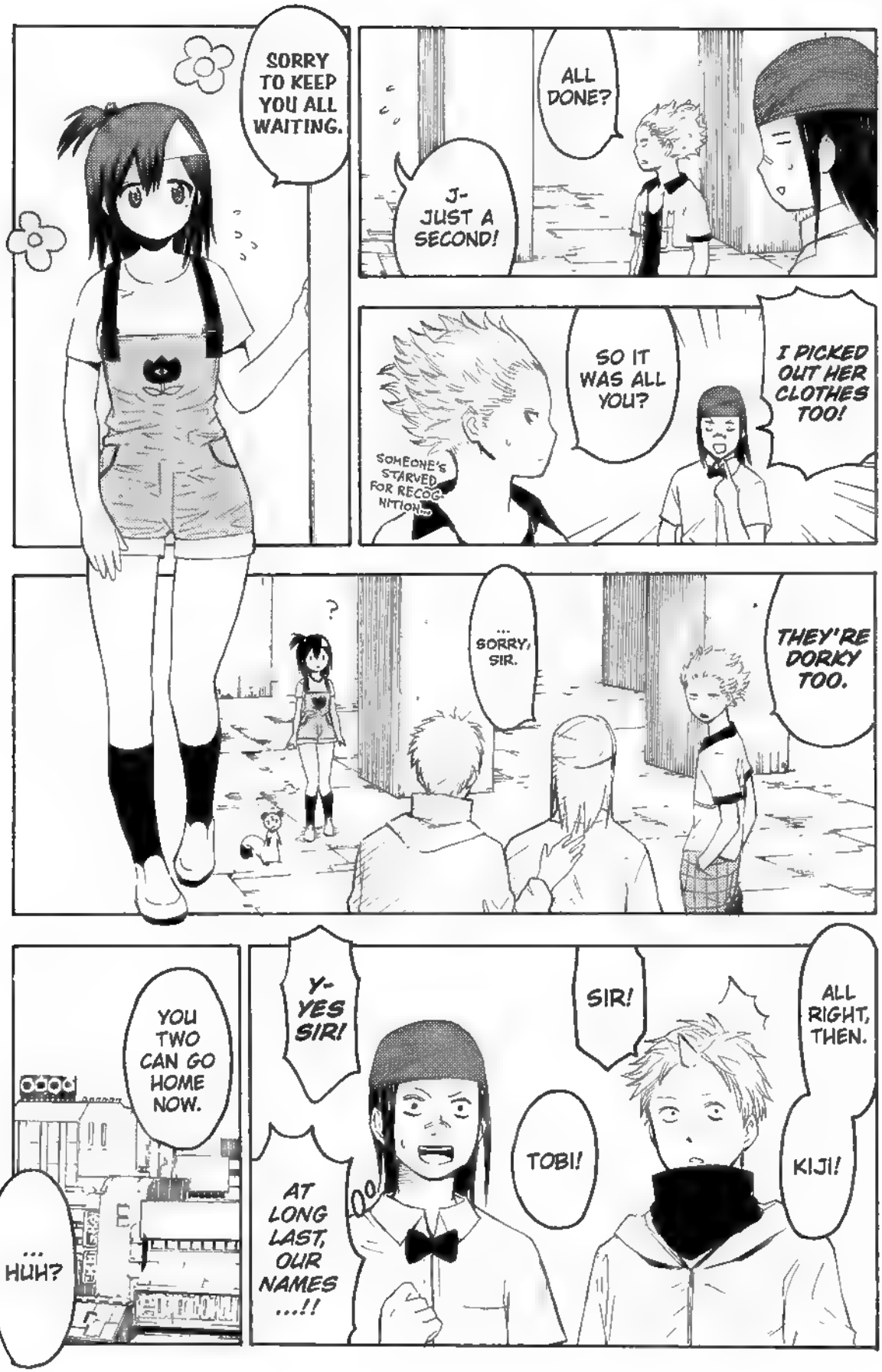
HUH ...?
ガバ
GABA (LURCH)

IN MY ROOM.
.....
WHERE AM I?
GYAAA!
...SO YOU ENDED UP IN MY ROOM. I NEVER LET ANYONE IN HERE, YOU KNOW. YOU'D BE MY FIRST GUEST.
HONESTLY. SEE, WOLF KICKED YOU IN WITH NO WARNING...
スゥ...
SUU (SHOOP)
クルン
KURUN (SPIN)
OOF.
WH-WH-WHA...!?
ZUTA (LAND)
ズタッ
...YOUR TASTE IS MORE CUTESY THAN I'D HAVE THOUGHT.
SORTA.
TH... THIS IS YOUR HOUSE?
... WHAT'S THAT S'POSED TO MEAN ...?
TECHNICALLY IT'S A ROOM IN THE DIMENSIONAL VOID, DISCONNECTED FROM EVERYWHERE ELSE.

I'M USING YOUR SHOWER AND NOW YOUR CLOTHES... THANKS.
IT'S FINE. YOU WERE ALL SWEATY AND GROSS.
THE CLOTHES WERE FREEBIES FROM ONIQLO. YOU CAN HAVE 'EM.
SAAA (FSHHH)
HOKA
HOKA (STEAM)
KYU (SQUEAK)
THANKS...
OH, THERE'S DRINKS AND STUFF IN THE FRIDGE IF YOU WANT.
.....
TE TE TE (TROT)
WELL, TIME FOR ME TO GET IN...
SHAAA
.....
GUBI (GULP)
KACHU (PSHHT)

...THIS WEIRD FEELING ...
SHAAA
ZOKU (CHILL)
I'VE GOT...
ZAPPAAA (SPLOOSH)
HEH-HEH-HEH. ISN'T THIS EXCITING.
HMM...
WHAT A TURN OF EVENTS.
NOW, THEN...
DIDN'T THINK I'D GET A CHANCE SO SOON...! HEH-HEH!
PYUU (SQUIRT)

WE GOT THE STUFF, BOSS!!
DOSA (WHUMP)
HEY BOSS, I PICKED OUT THOSE THREADS!
LOOKS LIKE THINGS'VE CALMED DOWN FOR THE MOMENT.
WELL.
PRETTY CUTE, RIGHT?!
OH, SO THAT'S WHY THEY'RE SO DORKY.
HERE, THIS IS YOURS.
CAN'T EVEN WALK AROUND LIKE THIS...
OOH. GOOD WORK.
TH-THANK YOU SO MUCH!
MY MAGIC'S RE-COVERED TOO.
SU (SHOO)
I OUGHT TO BE ABLE TO FIX MY FACE NOW.
.....
HOW'S IT LOOK?
WOW, JUST LIKE THAT, IT'S BACK TO NORMAL...


SORRY TO KEEP YOU ALL WAITING.
ALL DONE?
J- JUST A SECOND!
SO IT WAS ALL YOU?
I PICKED OUT HER CLOTHES TOO!
SOMEONE'S STARVED FOR RECOGNITION
...SORRY, SIR.
THEY'RE DORKY TOO.
Y- YES SIR!
SIR!
ALL RIGHT, THEN.
AT LONG LAST, OUR NAMES ...!!
TOBI!
KIJI!
YOU TWO CAN GO HOME NOW.
...HUH?

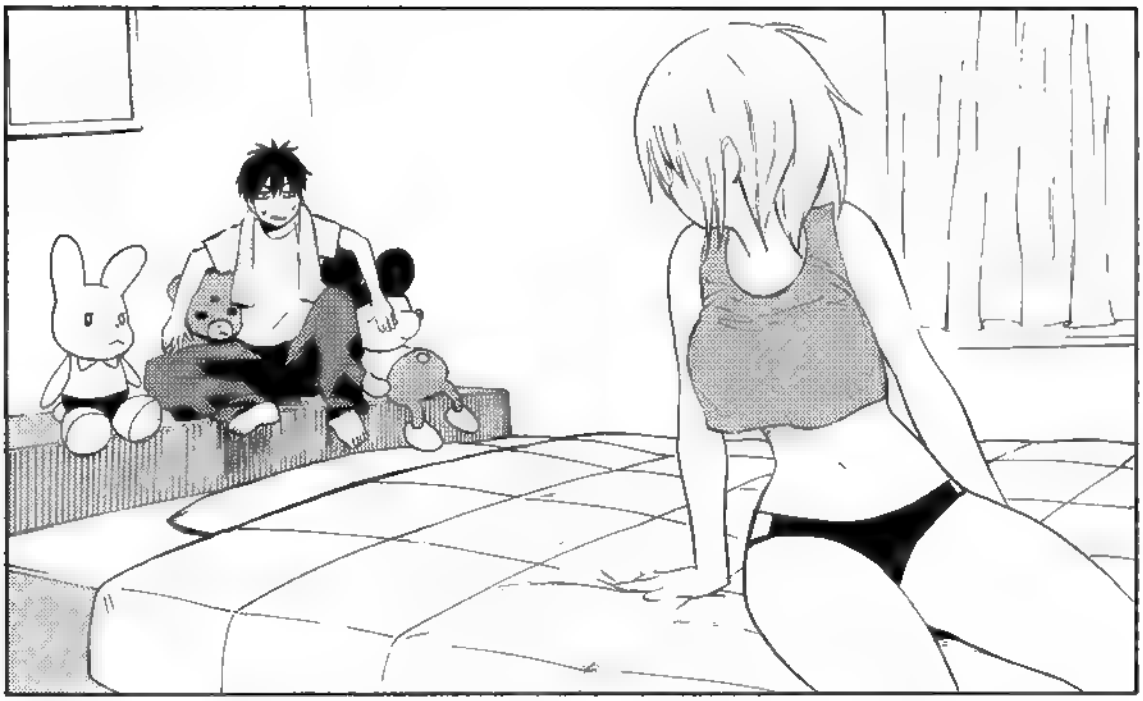
YES, SIR!
IN THE MEANTIME, WE'RE GONNA STAY ON STANDBY HERE.
OH YEAH... WOLF, THERE'S SOMETHING BOTHERING ME...
UM...DON'T YOU THINK THEY LOOK A LITTLE SAD...?
OH RIGHT, YOUR TERRI-TORY...
LONG AS THEY'RE AROUND, MY BASE'LL BE TAKEN CARE OF.
IT'S FINE. MIGHT NOT LOOK IT, BUT AFTER ME, THOSE TWO'RE THE STRONGEST GUYS IN MY TERRITORY.
I DIDN'T.
STAZ RAN AWAY FROM HOME, BUT WHY'D YOU LEAVE THE ACROPOLIS?
LYCAN-THROPES ARE NOBLE DEMONS TOO, RIGHT?
PEOPLE THINK I'M A LYCAN-THROPE ...
...BUT FACT IS, MY PEDIGREE AIN'T PROPER.
WHA ...?
I WAS DUMPED HERE.

THAT'S TERRIBLE!
...THAT ...!
SO THEY ABANDONED ME.
I'M A MIX OF LYCANTHROPE AND NOBODY.
IN OTHER WORDS, I'M A MONGREL.
...NOW I SEE...SO THE REASON YOU'RE TRYING TO CONQUER ALL THE TERRITORIES OF THE DEMON WORLD...
GOOOOOO (RRRUMBLE)
ゴオオ
...IS SO THAT A DAY MIGHT COME WHEN YOU CAN FINALLY BECOME A NOBLE DEMON AND BE ACKNOWLEDGED BY THE PARENTS WHO TOSSED YOU OUT...!
OOH! THE DRAMA...! SUCH DRAMA, WOLF...!
だばぁー
DABAAA (POUR)
ビクッ
BIKU (JUMP)
HEY, NOW. DON'T JUST GO FILLIN' IN MY BACKSTORY...
UH... OKAY ...
I WASN'T REALLY THINKIN' ABOUT IT LIKE THAT AT ALL, BUT...
...OH WELL.
WOLF-SAN, I...I'LL BE ROOTING FOR YOU!
FROM THE BOTTOM OF MY HEART, I HOPE THAT DAY COMES ...!!
GUESS IT WOULDN'T BE SO BAD...
THANKS.

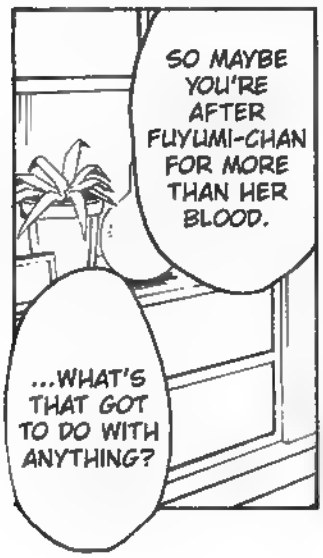
.....
HOW ABOUT A BEER FOR ME TOO?
PATA (FWAP)
PATA
WHEW! WHAT A NICE BATH.
WOULDN'T HAVE IT ANY OTHER WAY...
RUN (HUM)
...AFTER A BATH!
BAN (SHUT)
... WHAT'RE YOU WALKIN' AROUND LIKE THAT FOR...?
.....
WHY'RE YOU ALWAYS ACTING LIKE THIS? TO TEST ME?
WHAT DO YOU WANT?
YOU WERE STRUTTIN' AROUND IN JUST A PAIR OF SHORTS.
YOU'RE ONE TO TALK.
DOSA (WHUMP)

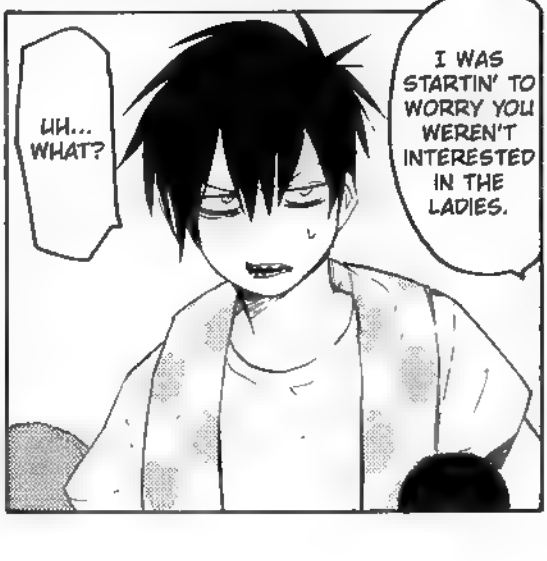
UNTIL I GOT YOU AND WOLF TO FIGHT, THAT IS...
TECHNICALLY, YOU WERE A SUSPECT.
'CAUSE YOU'RE A SUSPECT.
FOR WHAT?
BUT THAT JUST MADE ME SURE OF IT.
コトン
KOTON (THUNK)
THAT WAS WHY IT WASN'T A TOTAL LOSS.

LIKE I THOUGHT, YOU'VE BEEN HIDING IT.
HIDING WHAT?
SOMETHING I WANNA SEE.



SFX: GERA (CACKLE) GERA GERA, BATA (FLAIL) BATA BATA





WUH?
QUIT IT.
DON'T CHANGE THE SUBJECT ...
WHAT DO I HAVE THAT YOU WANNA SEE?
HOW ABOUT ...ME?
HEY.
.....
WHY DIDN'T YOU JUST OPEN THE LID AND LET IT ALL OUT?
I CAN'T STOP THINKING ABOUT IT.
LIKE SOMETHING LEAKING OUT OF A CRACK IN A SEALED-UP CHEST.
...YOUR MAGIC... IT HAD AN UN-NATURAL FLOW.

♠ To Be Continued ♠

.....
MAN... I WONDER IF WE'RE EVEN GONNA BE IN THE STORY ANY-MORE...

BLOOD LAD

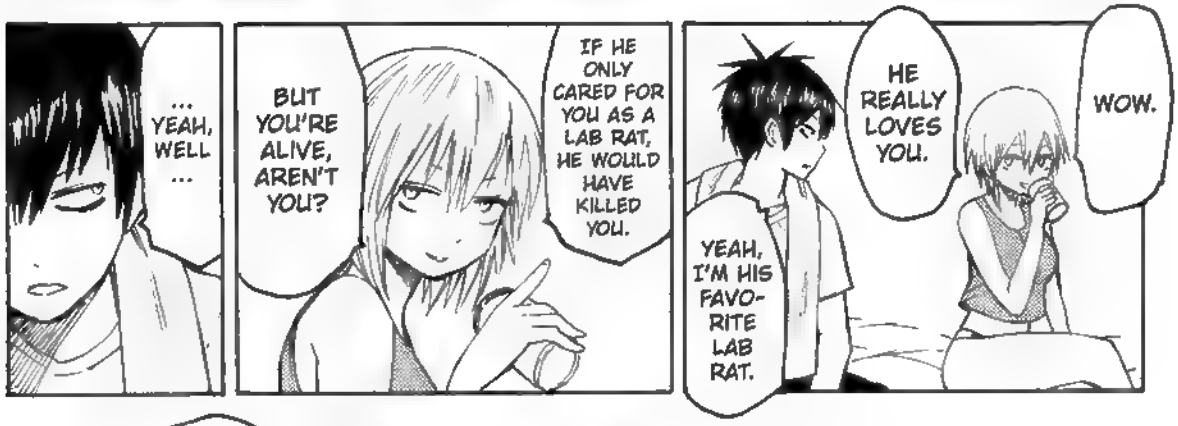
CHAPTER 9 ♠ THE THREE BLOODS

STAZ.
YOU HAVE EXTRAORDI-NARY TALENT AS A VAMPIRE. DO YOU UNDER-STAND THAT?
I'M GOING TO HELP YOU UNLOCK THAT POTENTIAL.
GASHIIN (GACHANK)
THIS MIGHT HURT A LITTLE...
...BUT THE SHOCK WILL WAKE THE POWERS SLEEPING WITHIN YOU.
GACHAN (GACHUNK)
NEXT TIME I SEE YOU, IT'LL BE GOOD MORNING ...
...TO A BRAND-NEW STAZ!

I KNOW A METHOD THAT WILL DEFINITELY AWAKEN YOUR TALENTS.
LAST TIME DIDN'T GO AS PLANNED, BUT THERE WILL BE NO MISTAKES THIS TIME.
STAZ.
IT'S CERTAIN TO BE A GRAND SUCCESS.
THIS TIME IT WILL WORK.
STAZ.
...BUT YOU'RE GOING TO LIVE IN HERE FOR A WEEK, STARTING NOW.
I'M SURE YOU CAN DO IT.
THIS CAVE IS RATHER HEAVILY POPULATED BY GIANT LEECHES...
STAZ!
YOU'RE VERY GIFTED.
STAZ.
IT'LL WORK.
STAZ.

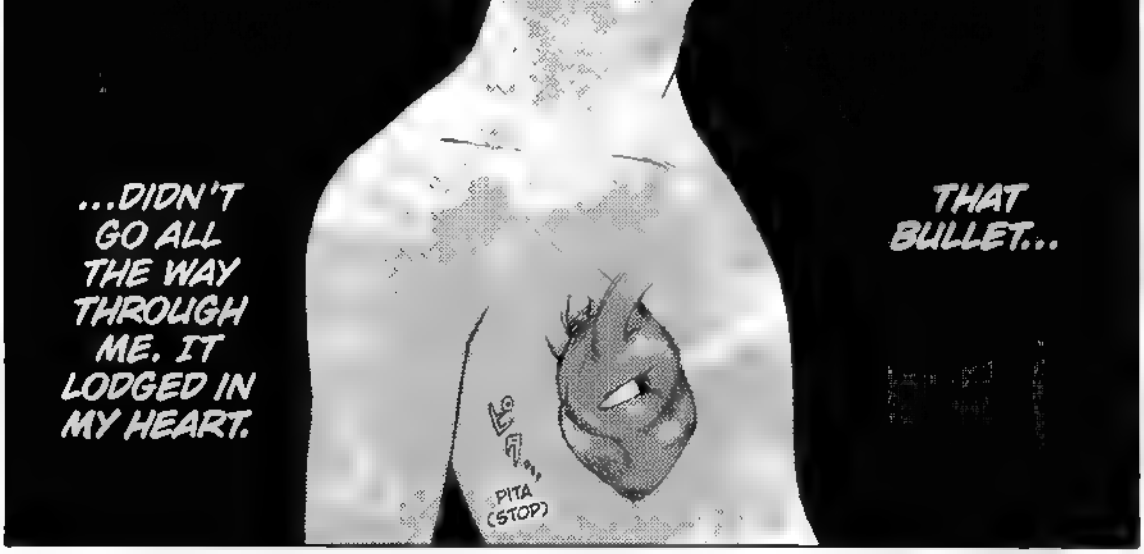
HELLOOO!?
ANYONE HOME, STAZ-KUN!?
YEAH?
WELL?
IT'S NOTH-ING.
WHY'D YOU SUDDENLY SPACE OUT LIKE THAT?
SO WHY DID YOUR BIG BRO SEAL YOUR MAGIC AWAY?
.....
...MY BROTH-ER...
...WAS TRYING TO KILL ME.

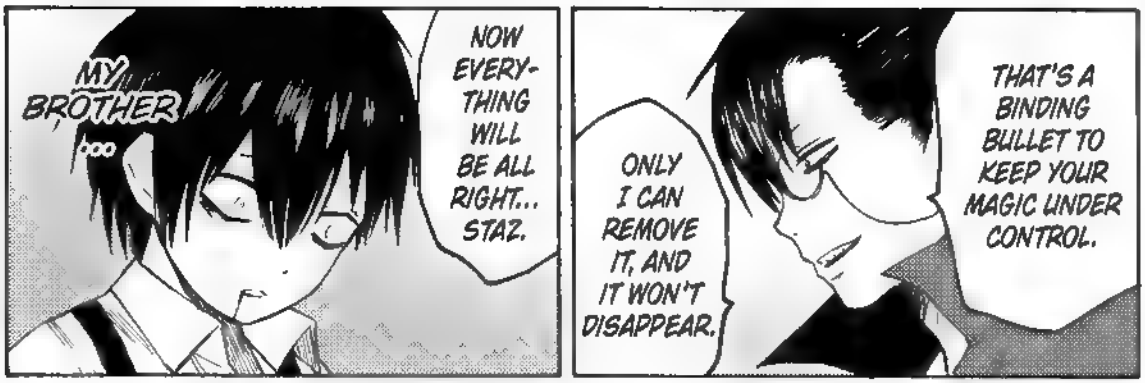
WEIRD DRUGS ...
...DANGEROUS EXPERIMENTS... SOON AS HE THOUGHT OF THEM, HE'D TRY THEM ON ME.
HE'S RESEARCHING MAGIC POWER...
...OR AT LEAST THAT'S WHAT HE CALLS IT. HE'S REALLY JUST OBSESSED WITH FINDING WAYS TO KILL.
HUH?


... YEAH, WELL ...
BUT YOU'RE ALIVE, AREN'T YOU?
IF HE ONLY CARED FOR YOU AS A LAB RAT, HE WOULD HAVE KILLED YOU.
YEAH, I'M HIS FAVORITE LAB RAT.
HE REALLY LOVES YOU.
WOW.

STAZ... I'M SO GLAD THIS DRUG'S FINALLY BEEN PERFECTED...
I CAN REALLY BREATHE EASIER...
BUT ONE DAY HE ACTUALLY SAID TO ME...

...
BECAUSE
...
ドウ
DOU
(BLAND)
...NOW YOU WON'T HAVE TO DIE.


...DIDN'T GO ALL THE WAY THROUGH ME. IT LODGED IN MY HEART.
PITA (STOP)
THAT BULLET...


MY BROTHER...
NOW EVERY-THING WILL BE ALL RIGHT... STAZ.
ONLY I CAN REMOVE IT, AND IT WON'T DISAPPEAR.
THAT'S A BINDING BULLET TO KEEP YOUR MAGIC UNDER CONTROL.

BUT THAT WAS A LIE.
DOSA (WHUMP)
HE SAID HE WANTED TO UNLOCK THE POTENTIAL OF MY MAGIC.

AND HIS EXPERIMENT WAS A SUCCESS.
ALL HIS RESEARCH WAS AIMED TOWARD FINDING A WAY TO SEAL AWAY MY MAGIC.

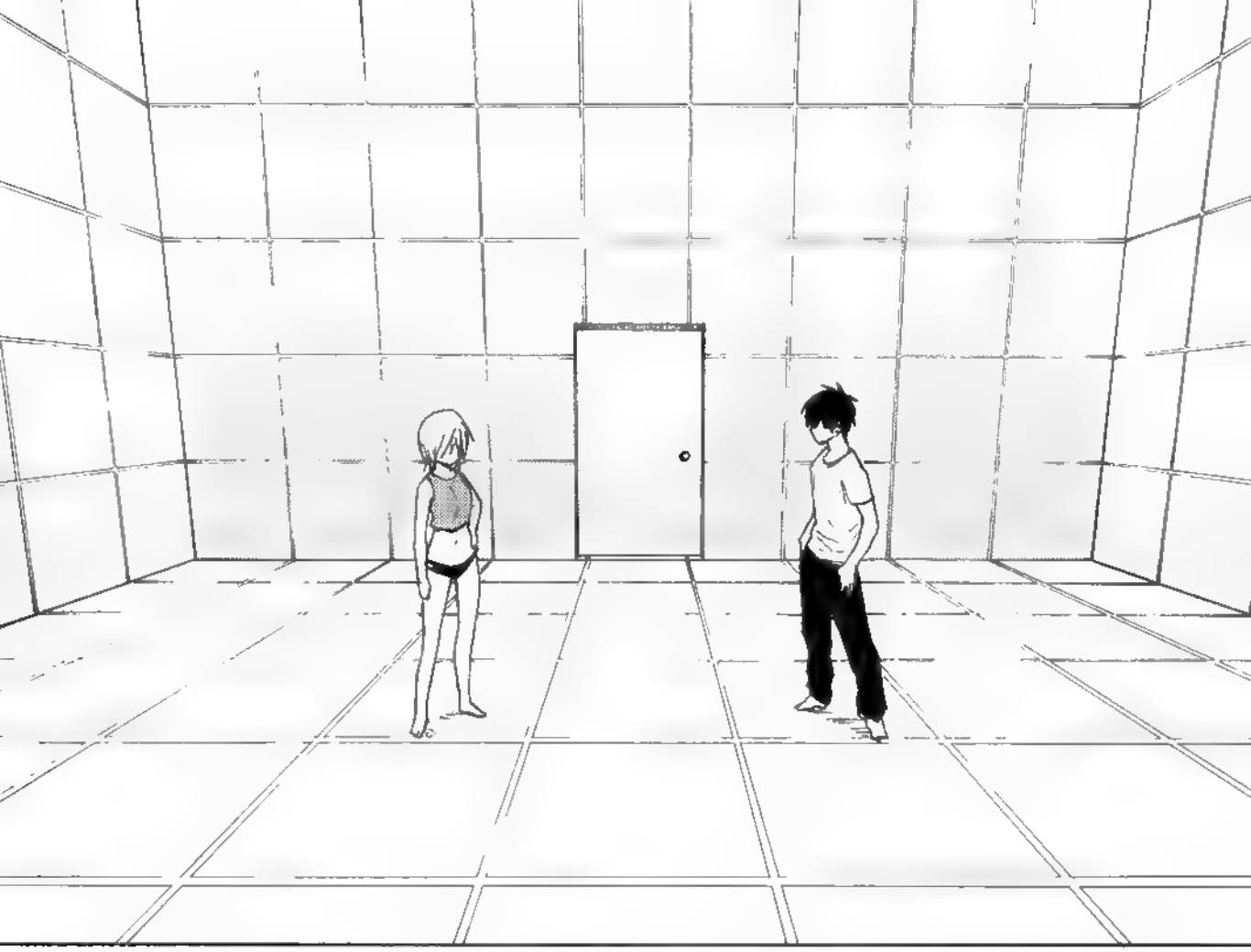
CELL: TAISHO / GOT IT! THE TABLE'S WAITING FOR YOU!

IT'S A TOUCH SCREEN ...
WHOOOAA, HOLY CRAP! LOOK AT THIS CRISP DISPLAY!! HOW DO YOU EVEN— HOW'S IT WORK?
NO WAY!? DAAANG, IT'S THE FUTURE!! TOTALLY SCI-FI!!

THIS IS AN IDEAL SITUATION, JUST THE TWO OF US IN A SEALED ROOM.
A NATURAL(?) PROGRESSION WITH A LITTLE HELP FROM WOLF.
...WELL...
I HAD NO IDEA HE HAD A PAST LIKE THAT.
BUT...
...I WAS PLANNING TO GET HIM TO SHOW ME THE MAGIC HE'S HIDING, BY ANY MEANS.
INSTEAD OF TAKING HIM TO SEE HIS BROTHER...
NO MATTER WHAT KIND OF POWER HE HAS, IF HE CAN'T USE IT FREELY...
...THERE'S NO WAY HE COULD STEAL MY MAGIC.
STAZ CAN'T BE THE MAGIC THIEF...
BUT IT TURNS OUT THOSE SECRET POWERS ARE LOCKED AWAY...
SO IT'S OBVIOUS.

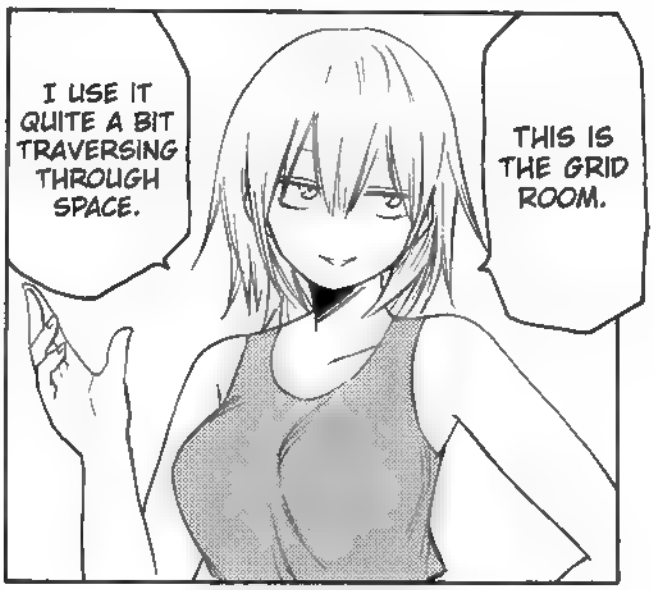
WHY MUST HIDDEN, SEALED-AWAY THINGS TUG AT MY HEART SO...!?
AHH, WHY ...?
I WANNA SEE IT...! I WANNA OPEN IT UP...!! I WANNA EXPOSE IT...!!!
STILL ...!
ぶる。
BURU (TREMBLE)
?
IT'S BECAUSE I AM A TRUE TREASURE HUNTER!!
ビッ
BI (JAB)
OOOH! BUT OF COURSE !!
WH... WHERE ...?
LET'S GO!!
TO FIND YOUR BROTHER! WHERE ELSE!?
OOF!
NYAA (MROWW) !! !!
DO (SLAM)
NNN! ENOUGH PLAYIN' WITH MY PHONE!!

DOGGYA CWHAM!
.....HUH?
I WAS GOING TO ASK HIM ABOUT THE REVIVAL SPELL.
WE DEPART ON THE MORROW!!
TOMOR-ROW!!
WHA... NOW?
...OH... OKAY...
...AND HAVE HIM REMOVE THE BULLET!!
YOU MUST GO TO YOUR BROTHER ...
'SCUSE ME!?
ALL YOU DO IS LOSE! YOU'RE A TOTAL IDIOT!
WHEN DID I EVER LOSE TO YOU!?
HOW ABOUT I SHOW YOU WHAT REAL DEFEAT TASTES LIKE?
HMPH... LOOKS LIKE YOU'RE NOT QUITE WITH IT.
COME WITH ME.
OH, WHAT? HURTS TO LOSE TO A GIRL?
HEY! THE HELL IS THE MATTER WITH YOU!?
WHA ...!?



WHATEVER... IF WE'RE GONNA FIGHT, LET'S GET STARTED ALREADY.
HONESTLY! SEEMS LIKE YOU'VE BEEN MISSIN' THE POINT FOR A WHILE NOW, SO I'LL CLUE YOU IN.
I HAVE NO INTEREST IN FIGHTING YOU.

LOOKS LIKE A GOOD PLACE TO FIGHT, BUT...
...WHAT'S UP WITH THIS DEPRESSING EMPTY ROOM?


I USE IT QUITE A BIT TRAVERSING THROUGH SPACE.
THIS IS THE GRID ROOM.

!
DUMB-ASS!
SU (SHOOP)
...IS I'M GONNA MAKE YOU ADMIT DEFEAT WITHOUT EVER FIGHTING. ☆
WHAT I'M SAYING ...
?
YOU'RE THE ONE UNDERES-TIMATING ME.
TON (TAP)
TON
HOW WEAK D'YOU THINK I AM? WHY WOULD I ADMIT DEFEAT?
HEY, DID SHE ...?
.....
OH GREAT ...
GACHA (CLICK)

SFX: HAMU (CHOMP) HAMU, MOSSHA (MUNCH) MOSSHA

ARE YOU TIRED OR SOME-THIN'?
THAT'S A NAPKIN...
OH!
WHAT'S THE MATTER? AIN'T YOU GONNA EAT?
YES, I'LL EAT.
I'M SORRY ...
WELL THAT WOULDN'T BE TOO SURPRISIN'. STAZ HAS BEEN DRAGGIN' YOU ALL OVER THE DAMN PLACE...
UM...I GUESS I'M OUT OF ENERGY... ALL OF A SUDDEN ...
SO YOU'RE SLEEPY.

I'LL GET YOU A ROOM AT AN INN CLOSE BY.
YOU SHOULD TAKE IT EASY.
OH...
TH-THANK YOU.
DON'T APOLO-GIZE...
IT'S STAZ'S FAULT.
YEAH. STAZ'S FAULT!
PRETTY MUCH EVERYTHING IS ALWAYS HIS FAULT.
EXACTLY! HE ALWAYS LOOKS LIKE HE'S THINKING WHEN HE'S NOT THINKING AT ALL!
PEOPLE REALLY DON'T HAVE ANY-THING NICE TO SAY ABOUT HIM...
BUT IT LOOKS LIKE HE'S MORE THE TYPE TO PROTECT THE WEAK AND TAKE DOWN THE STRONG.
WHAT A COOL GUY! NOW THERE'S A MAN I CAN LOOK UP TO.
.....
MAN, I ALWAYS THOUGHT WOLF WAS MEANER.
YEAH ...
I'M GLAD WE'VE MADE FRIENDS WITH HIM.
I WONDER ...
...IF STAZ-SAN WILL BE ABLE...
...TO GET ALONG WITH HIS BROTHER...

I GIVE UP.

SHUT UP.
YOU'RE SMARTER THAN I THOUGHT.
ONE OF THESE DAYS I'LL MAKE YOU PAY.

YEP.
I COULD BE ALL STUBBORN ABOUT IT AND TRY TO SPARE MY PRIDE, BUT THERE'S NO WAY FOR ME TO GET OUT OF HERE ON MY OWN, IS THERE.
SU (SHOOP)
OH? ADMITTING DEFEAT SO SOON?

I'LL TAKE OUT THE BULLET IN MY HEART.
WELL... MAAAY-BE...

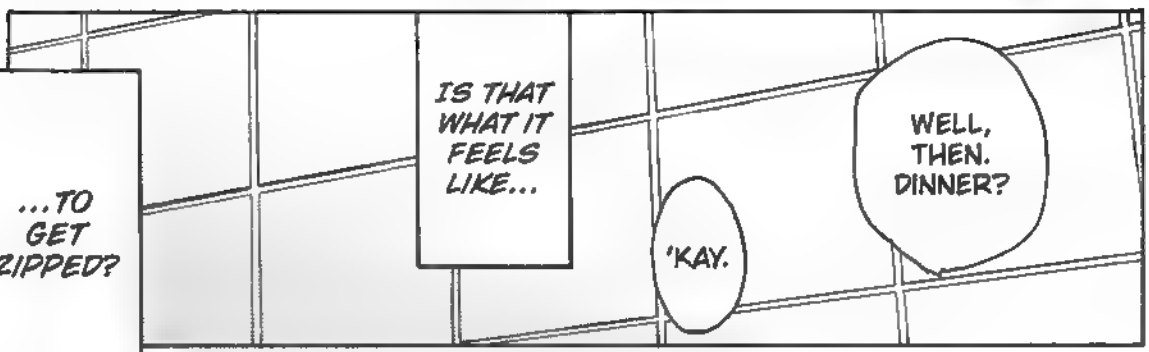
SO, ABOUT YOUR MAGIC THIEF. THE FACT THAT YOU WERE SUSPECTING ME MEANS THAT ONCE I CAN USE ALL OF MY POWERS...
...I'LL BE ABLE TO STEAL YOURS, RIGHT?

...AND KEEP ON KICKIN' YOUR ASS UNTIL YOU HAVE TO GIVE UP AND BEG FOR MERCY.
AND THEN I'LL TAKE YOUR MAGIC, HUNT YOU DOWN WHEREVER YOU GO...

UH-OH ...
SO LET ME OUT OF HERE ALREADY.
THIS IS BAD, BAD, BAD.

I PROM-ISE YOU THAT.
DOKUN (BADUMP)

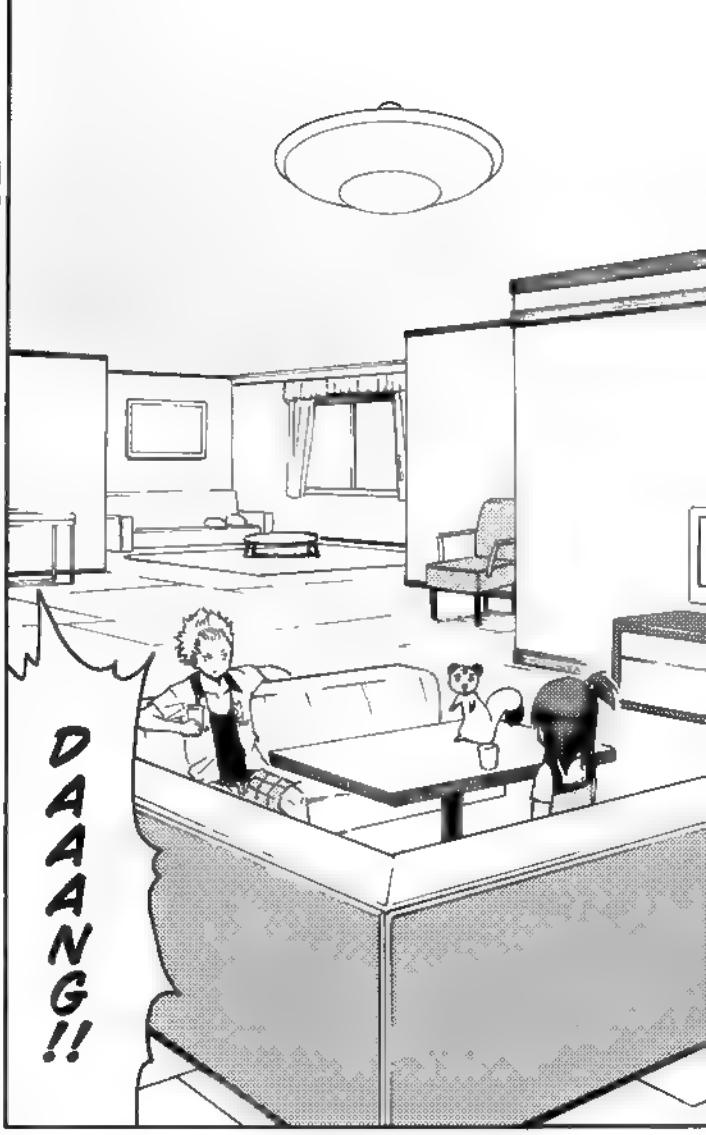
JUST NOW ...
... YEAH.
...IT FELT LIKE HE WRAPPED HIS HAND AROUND MY HEART...

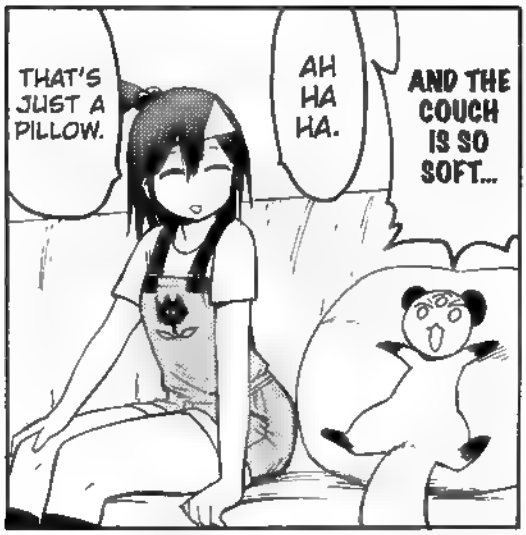

...TO GET ZIPPED?
IS THAT WHAT IT FEELS LIKE...
'KAY.
WELL, THEN. DINNER?

HERE YOU GO, FATTY TUNA.
GO AHEAD, HAVE ALL YOU WANT.
THIS IS... SUSHI!!
SU... SUSHI ...!!
HA-HA-HA! SORRY TO DISAP-POINT.
OH, C'MON.
I WISH IT WERE ON A CONVEYOR BELT, THOUGH.
I'VE NEVER HAD IT BEFORE ...
YOU LIKE IT, DON'T YOU?
I WAS WONDERING WHERE YOU WERE TAKING ME... TO THINK IT'D BE THE HUMAN WORLD... AND A SUSHI SHOP IN JAPAN TO BOOT...
HA-HA-HA! FROM ABROAD, ARE YA?
SEA URCHIN NIGIRI FOR ME.
PAKU (POP)

MISTER, I'LL HAVE ANOTHER OF THOSE MELTY CRAZY-TASTY ONES.
THERE YOU GO. UNI.
YOU'RE SO INNO-CENT.
HUH? NOW WHAT?
I WAS WRONG ABOUT YOU.
BELL ...
.....
... YOU'RE REALLY NICE.
YOU PISS ME OFF, BUT ACTUALLY ...
I ONLY ACKNOWL-EDGE GUYS WHO ARE STRONGER THAN ME...!
WHAT IS GOING ON...?
NOT YET...
SO NOT QUITE YET, OKAY?

YOU GET AN AWESOME ROOM LIKE THIS JUST BY SHOWING YOUR FACE!
BEIN' KING OF THE WEST COMES WITH PERKS!


DAAANG!!


THAT'S JUST A PILLOW.
AH HA HA.
AND THE COUCH IS SO SOFT...

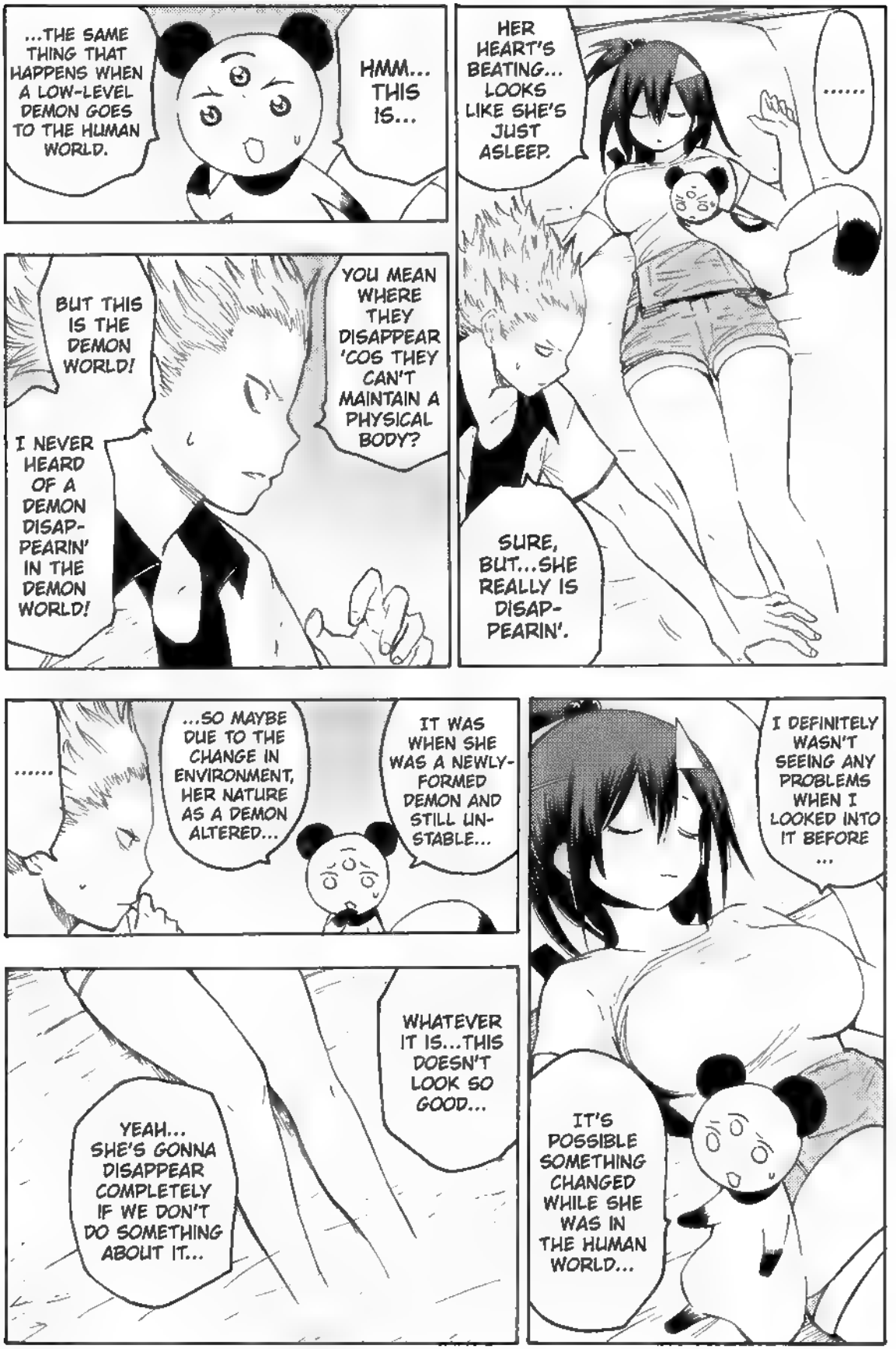
SHE MUST'VE BEEN SUPER-TIRED.
GURI (RUB)
GURI
RIGHT HERE ...?
JUST HOW BAD WAS STAZ TREATIN' HER...?

AREN'T YOU TIRED? GO TO SLEEP ALREADY.
I SAID I DON'T NEED ANY THANKS.
WOLF-SAN, THANK YOU FOR ALL YOUR HELP.

THAT WAS FAST!
KUU (ZZZ)
I SUPPOSE SO... THEN I'LL JUST...DO THAT...

OOF.
ME?
...
YOU GONNA GET HER INTO BED?
W-WELL, I GUESS NOT...
I CAN'T PICK HER UP, CAN I?
...FEEL NICE AGAINST MY BACK, THERE.
SOMETHIN'... SURE DOES...
WHAT?
...
FUYUMI'S FEET ARE...
WH... WHAT'S HAP-PENING ...
...BUT SHE'S LIGHTER THAN SHE LOOKS...
HUH?

...DISAP-
PEARING?
プラン
PURAN
(DANGLE)
!!
I DON'T KNOW! I DIDN'T DO ANYTHING!
WHAT IS IT?
WHAT IS GOIN' ON!?
ドサ
DOSA
(WHUMP)
ドカ
DOKA
(KICK)


...THE SAME THING THAT HAPPENS WHEN A LOW-LEVEL DEMON GOES TO THE HUMAN WORLD.
HMM... THIS IS...
HER HEART'S BEATING... LOOKS LIKE SHE'S JUST ASLEEP.
.....
BUT THIS IS THE DEMON WORLD!
YOU MEAN WHERE THEY DISAPPEAR 'COS THEY CAN'T MAINTAIN A PHYSICAL BODY?
I NEVER HEARD OF A DEMON DISAP-PEARIN' IN THE DEMON WORLD!
SURE, BUT...SHE REALLY IS DISAP-PEARIN'.
.....
...SO MAYBE DUE TO THE CHANGE IN ENVIRONMENT, HER NATURE AS A DEMON ALTERED...
IT WAS WHEN SHE WAS A NEWLY-FORMED DEMON AND STILL UN-STABLE...
I DEFINITELY WASN'T SEEING ANY PROBLEMS WHEN I LOOKED INTO IT BEFORE ...
WHATEVER IT IS...THIS DOESN'T LOOK SO GOOD...
YEAH... SHE'S GONNA DISAPPEAR COMPLETELY IF WE DON'T DO SOMETHING ABOUT IT...
IT'S POSSIBLE SOMETHING CHANGED WHILE SHE WAS IN THE HUMAN WORLD...

ガヤ
GAYA
ガヤ
GAYA (CHATTER)
YOU'VE GOT TEN SECONDS.
OH! SORRY, I'M COMING!
ONNNE ...
FUYUMI!
WE'RE GOING HOME!
HOW LONG ARE YOU GONNA NAP?

EEK!
NEVER-FOOO-OUR...
TWOOO...
THREEE...
WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT? I'M A HUMAN BEING!
YOU CAN'T STAY IN THE HUMAN WORLD.
YOU'RE A DEMON NOW, REMEMBER?
WHAT'RE YOU DOING HERE?
HUH?
LOOK, I HAVE LEGS AND...
YOU WON'T BE ABLE TO WALK HOME.
SEE? I TOLD YOU...

AND THAT ISN'T YOU ANY-MORE.
.....

WAIT FOR ME!
AHH!
TENNN!
TA (TAP)
TA
TA

NOW, DRINK UP.
I'LL GIVE YOU YOUR LEGS BACK.
NO...

...IS THE DEMON WORLD.
BUT ON THESE LEGS, THE ONLY PLACE YOU'RE WALKING HOME TO...

NOT THIS WORLD.
CHUPO (SUCK)

THAT'S WHAT I WANTED...
OH... THAT'S IT...
...THIS... ISN'T STAZ-SAN...
HUH? ...BUT I THINK SOMETHING'S DIFFERENT...
WHO ARE YOU?

DON
(BOOM)

RIGHT.
THANKS.
YOU'RE GOIN' IT ALONE FROM HERE.

WELP.
THAT'S AS FAR AS I CAN TAKE YOU.

WELL, I'LL JUST HEAD OUT THERE AND FIND OUT...
...ABOUT THE SPELL OF HUMAN RESURRECTION.

I RAN AWAY IN THE FIRST PLACE.
IF YOU DON'T GET IT TAKEN OUT, I'M NOT BRINGIN' YOU BACK, GOT IT!?
I CAN GET BACK FROM HERE JUST FINE.

...IF HE SEEMS WILLING.
SURE...
DON'T FORGET ABOUT THE BULLET, Y'HEAR?

THE SUSHI WAS GREAT.
SEE YA.
C'MON! YOU PROMISED!
YOU JACK-ASS!!

GRRR...
.....
I WENT TOO SOFT ON HIM...
I REALLY SHOULD'VE MADE HIM COMMIT TO IT.
I CAN JUST CREATE A SITUATION... WHERE HE HAS TO GET THE BULLET TAKEN OUT.
EH...IT'S NOT TOO LATE.
.....
(SHOOP)
ALL RIGHT, LET'S DO THIS. ☆
IT'S GO TIME.

I'LL HAVE TO TRY TO SNEAK IN...
...PAST THAT ONE...
GASA
GASA (RUSTLE)
OKAY..
RIGHT NOW, IF SHE FINDS ME, I'M DONE FOR.
AS FOR SEEING MY BROTHER... I'LL CROSS THAT BRIDGE WHEN I GET TO IT.
EVEN IF IT TAKES LONGER, THIS IS WHERE I HAVE TO BE CAREFUL...
STAZ?
WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE...?
DOSU (THNK)

KOO
KOO (FWOOH)
YOU DON'T HAVE ANY REASON TO BE BACK HERE.

...LIZ.
OH, HEY. I'VE MISSED YOU...
♠ To Be Continued ♠

IT'S ONE THING TO SAY IT'S GO TIME, BUT...
OH MAN, NOW WHAT?
...I HAVE NO IDEA WHERE WOLF AND THE OTHERS GOT TO, DO I?

BLOOD LAD

CHAPTER 10 ♠ FUYUMI INSIDE
DO
DO
DO (STOMP)
DO
DO
DO
WHERE ARE WE TAKING FUYUMI ALL OF A SUDDEN!?
HEY! WOLF !!
DA (LEAP)
THERE'S A GUY AROUND HERE WHO KNOWS A LOT ABOUT DEMON PHYSIOLOGY.
I DON'T TRUST HIM AS FAR AS I CAN THROW HIM, BUT MAYBE HE'LL KNOW SOMETHIN'.

THE MAD SCIENTIST OF THE DEMON WORLD.
ZUN (BOOM)
ズーン
ドドド

CHAPTER 10 ♠ FUYUMI INSIDE

AHH. YEP, COFFEE SHOULD REALLY ONLY BE DRUNK OUT OF A BEAKER.
I WAS THE BOSS OF THIS TERRITORY TILL A COUPLE DAYS AGO.
HEY, CAN YOU EVEN HEAR ME? CAN'T YOU DO SOMETHIN' ABOUT THAT NOISE?
ZUN
DO
DO (THMP)
ZUN (BOOM)
HEY, I'M DEPENDING ON YOU HERE, FRANKEN-SAN.
MAKE ME SOME MORE OF THAT JUICE, WILL YOU?
IT'S EFFECTIVE AS A VIBRATION MASSAGE. DID YOU KNOW THAT?
...ACTUALLY RELIEVES SHOULDER TENSION AND LOWER BACK PAIN.
THE SENSATION OF LOW-FREQUENCY SOUND THUDDING THROUGH THE BODY...
HERE I AM RELAXING, TRYING TO RECOVER FROM THE DAY'S STRESS...
...BUT I'M BEING YELLED AT BY A FORMER BOSS WHO ONLY ACHIEVED HIS POSITION THANKS TO MY DRUGS...
I CAN'T HEAR A DAMN WORD YOU'RE SAYIN'!
HUH? WHAT?
IN OTHER WORDS, IT'S LIKE THIS.

DOOON (KABOOM)
ドオォン
ZUN
ズ
PIN (TING)
ピン
GET LOST.
CAN'T YOU TAKE A HINT?
ZUN
ズ
WHAT WAS THAT!?
THAT NUT...
HE MESSED UP THE AMOUNT OF EXPLOSIVES AGAIN...

プス
PUSU
プス
PUSU (PUFF)
シュー
SHUU (STEAM)
GUH ...
PARA (CRUMBLE)
PARA
BUT THAT WAS A PRETTY GOOD VIBE MASSAGE ...
AW, MAN.
I'M JUST NOT CUT OUT FOR MAKING BOMBS.
... RIGHT ...
... FRAN-KEN?
WELL, WELL ...

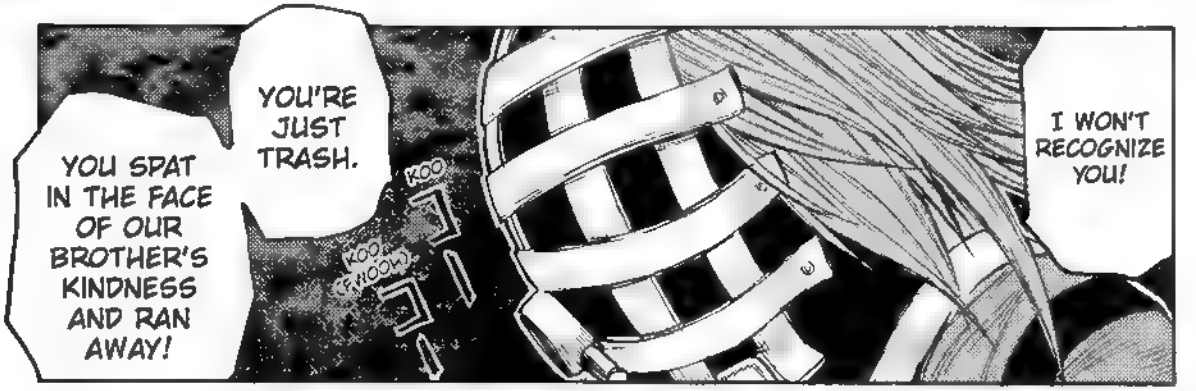
I'M IN A NASTY MOOD.
JUST BEEN HAVING SOME TROUBLE LATELY.
I GOT A PATIENT FOR YOU.
WHAT-EVER.
OF COURSE NOT!
YOU STILL THROWIN' BOMBS EVERY TIME SOMEBODY COMES BY?
AREN'T I POPULAR TODAY. BOSSES OLD AND NEW STOPPING IN.
...TAL?
THIS ISN'T A DAMN HOSPI...
WHERE'D HER FEET GO?
THAT'S WHAT I WAS HOPIN' YOU'D KNOW.
I'M GONNA PUT HER DOWN ON THIS BED.
DID YOU HEAR WHAT I JUST SAID? THIS IS NO TIME FOR THAT.
HEY NOW, WOLF-SAN, WAIT JUST A MINUTE.

HOLD UP, I SAID!!

CALM DOWN, LIZ!
JUST LISTEN TO ME FOR A SECOND!!

YOU'RE A DISGRACE TO OUR NAME!
WHY WOULD OUR BROTHER WANT TO SEE YOU!?
ACK!
BUN (SWING)
SHUT UP!

ZUGA (SLASH)
NO, YOU ARE NOT!
HOW COME YOU GET TO DECIDE THAT?
YEAH, I AM!!
AND I'M YOUR BROTHER TOO!


YOU'RE JUST TRASH.
KOO
KOO (FWOOW)
I WON'T RECOGNIZE YOU!
YOU SPAT IN THE FACE OF OUR BROTHER'S KINDNESS AND RAN AWAY!

THE DAY...
I'VE WAITED FOR THIS DAY A LONG TIME.
...WHEN I COULD PUNISH YOU MYSELF...

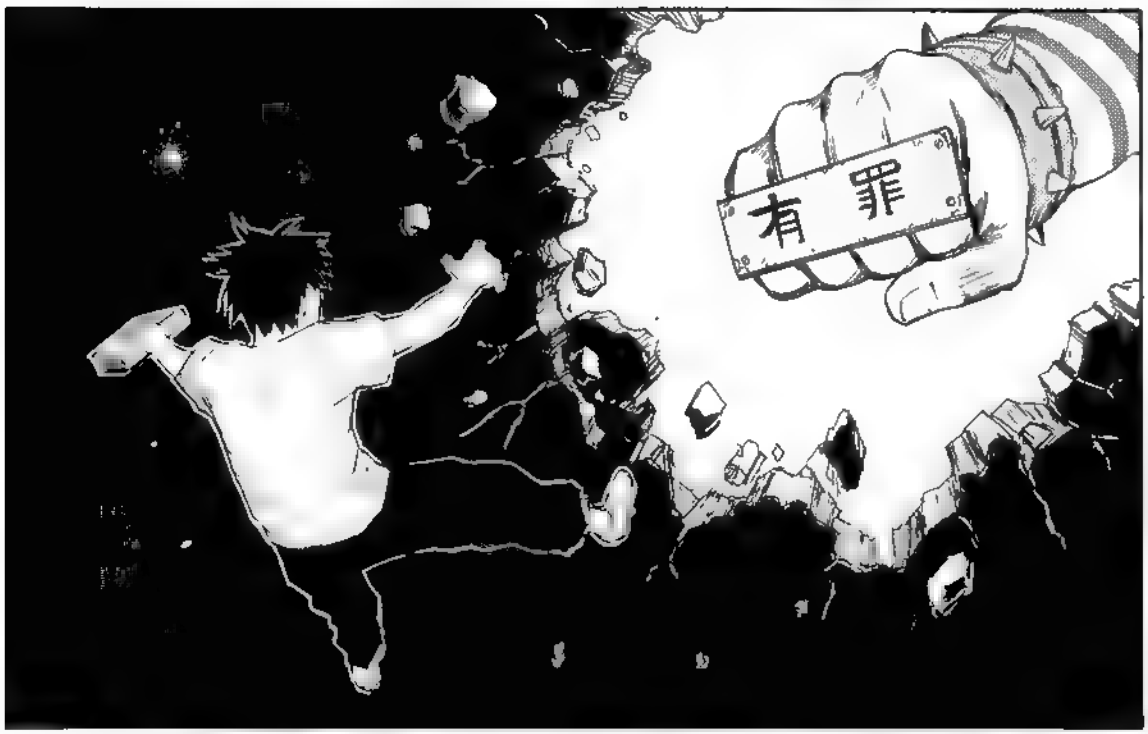
ドオン
DOON
(BOOM)
!!

FIST: GUILTY

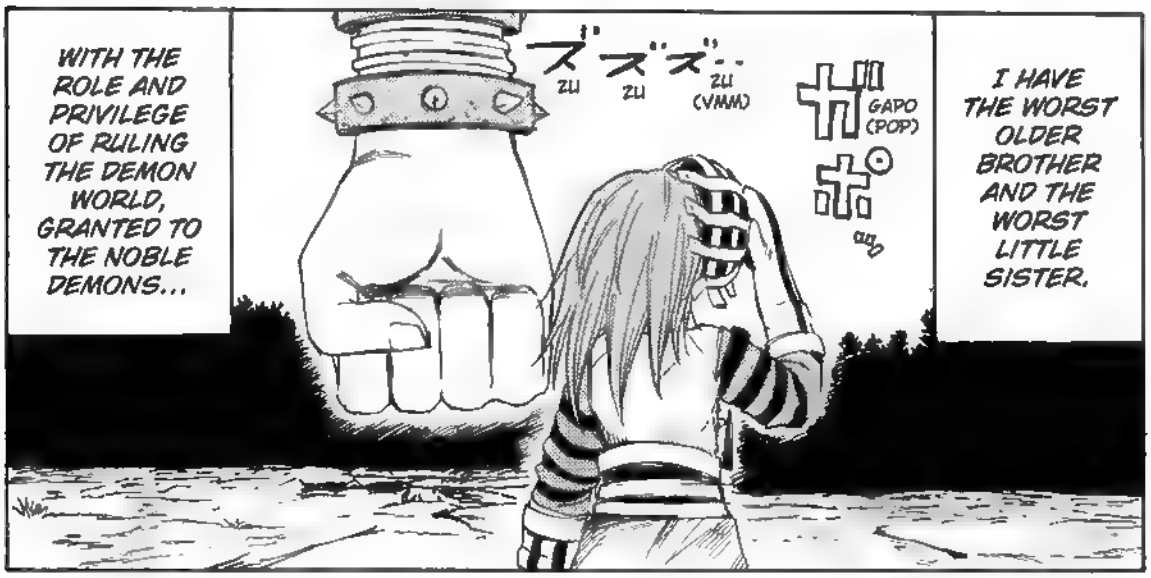
AND FOR THAT CRIME ...
有罪
オオォオオォ
OOOOOO
(WHOOOOM)

THE SAME BLOOD FLOWS IN YOUR VEINS AS IN MINE AND OUR BROTHER'S.
WHAT, SERI-OUSLY !?

...YOU SHALL BE PUN-ISHED.
GOPPA (CRUMBLING)
JUDG-MENT IMPACT.


有罪

THIS IS THE WORST-CASE SCENARIO.


WITH THE ROLE AND PRIVILEGE OF RULING THE DEMON WORLD, GRANTED TO THE NOBLE DEMONS...
ズ ZU
ズ ZU
ズ ZU (VMM)
GAPO (POP)
I HAVE THE WORST OLDER BROTHER AND THE WORST LITTLE SISTER.

LIZ T. BLOOD ...
...THE JAILER.
SHE'LL EVEN EXERCISE THAT RIGHT AGAINST HER OWN BROTHER ...
THE POWER TO PUNISH THE WRONG-DOERS OF THE DEMON WORLD...
...AND IMPRISON THEM HERE BY FORCE.

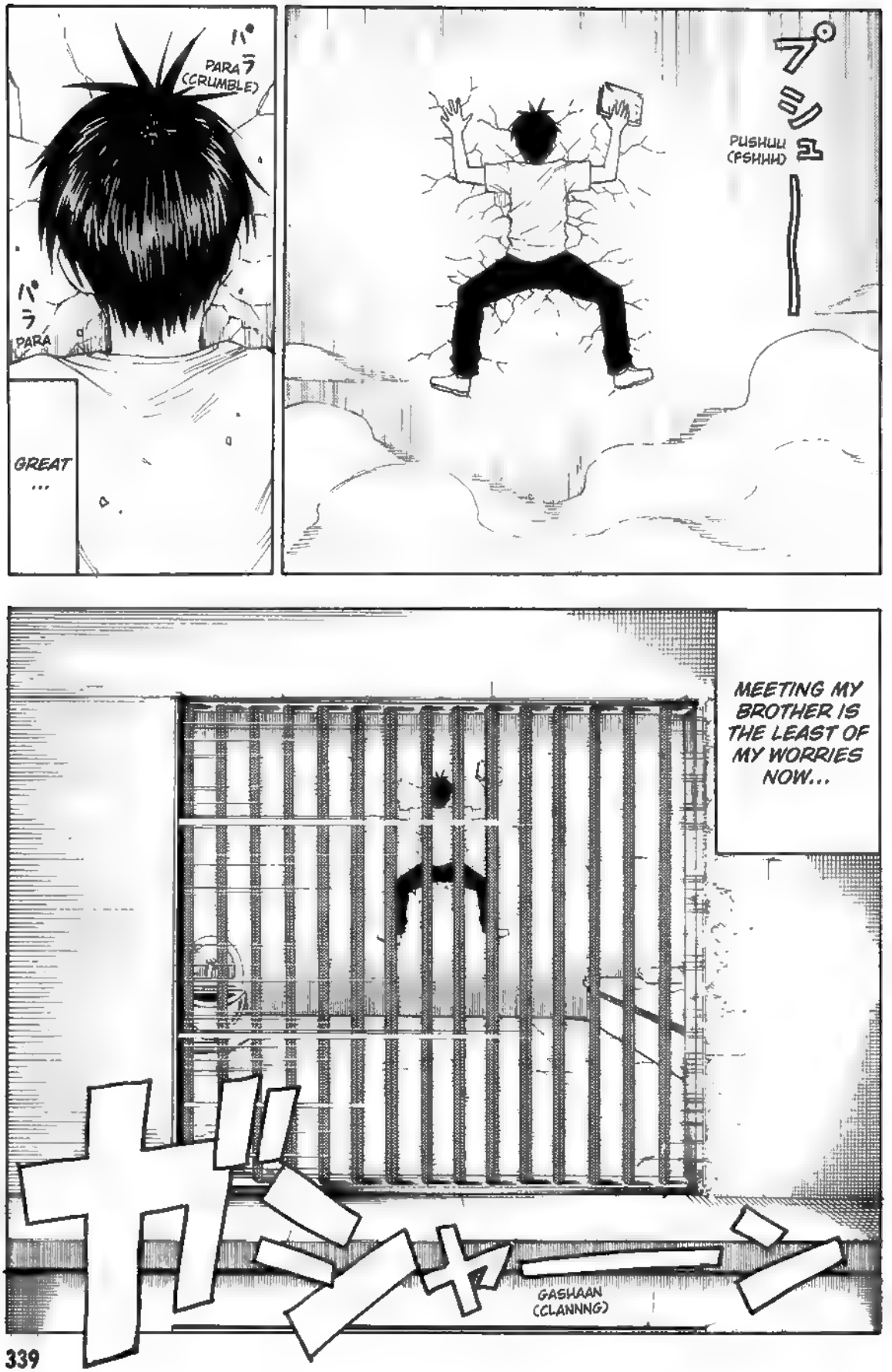
LIZ'S TOY BOX.

THE CRUELEST DUNGEON IN ALL THE DEMON WORLD—

THE CRUELEST DUNGEON IN ALL THE DEMON WORLD—

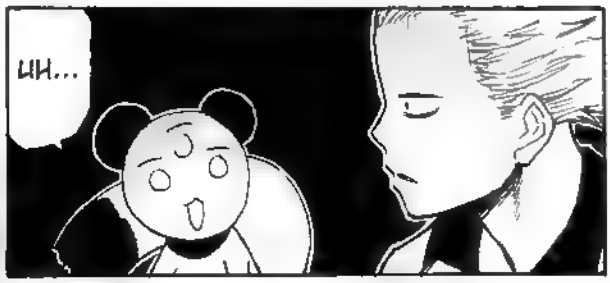
LIZ'S TOY BOX.

スポ
SUPO (SHOOMP)
ゴオオオ
GOOOO (RUMMMBLE)
カチッ
KACHI (CLICK)
ドオン
DOON (BOOM)
ボガッ
BOGA (WHOOM)


パラ
PARA
(CRUMBLE)
パラ
PARA
GREAT ...
プシュル
PUSHUU
(FSHHH)
MEETING MY BROTHER IS THE LEAST OF MY WORRIES NOW...
ガシャーン
GASHAAN
(CLANNNG)

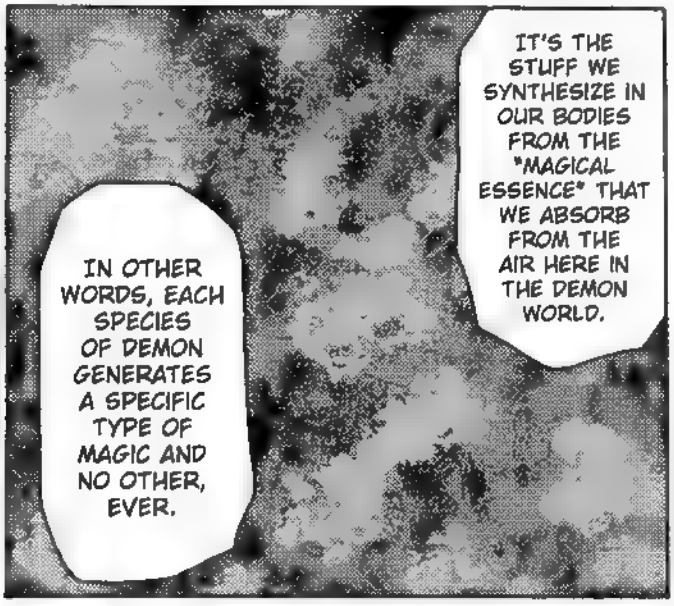
HMM.
CHA (CHAK)
OF COURSE I KNEW THERE ARE GHOSTS, BUT...
...THIS GIRL...
WHAT? A GHOST?
I'VE NEVER SEEN A DEMON LIKE THIS BEFORE.
THIS IS AN INTER-ESTING CASE.
OTHER DEMONS ...?
WAIT, YOU MEAN ...?
SHE'S... HOW DO I PUT IT... A MIX.
OF OTHER DEMONS.
... THAT'S NOT ALL SHE IS.

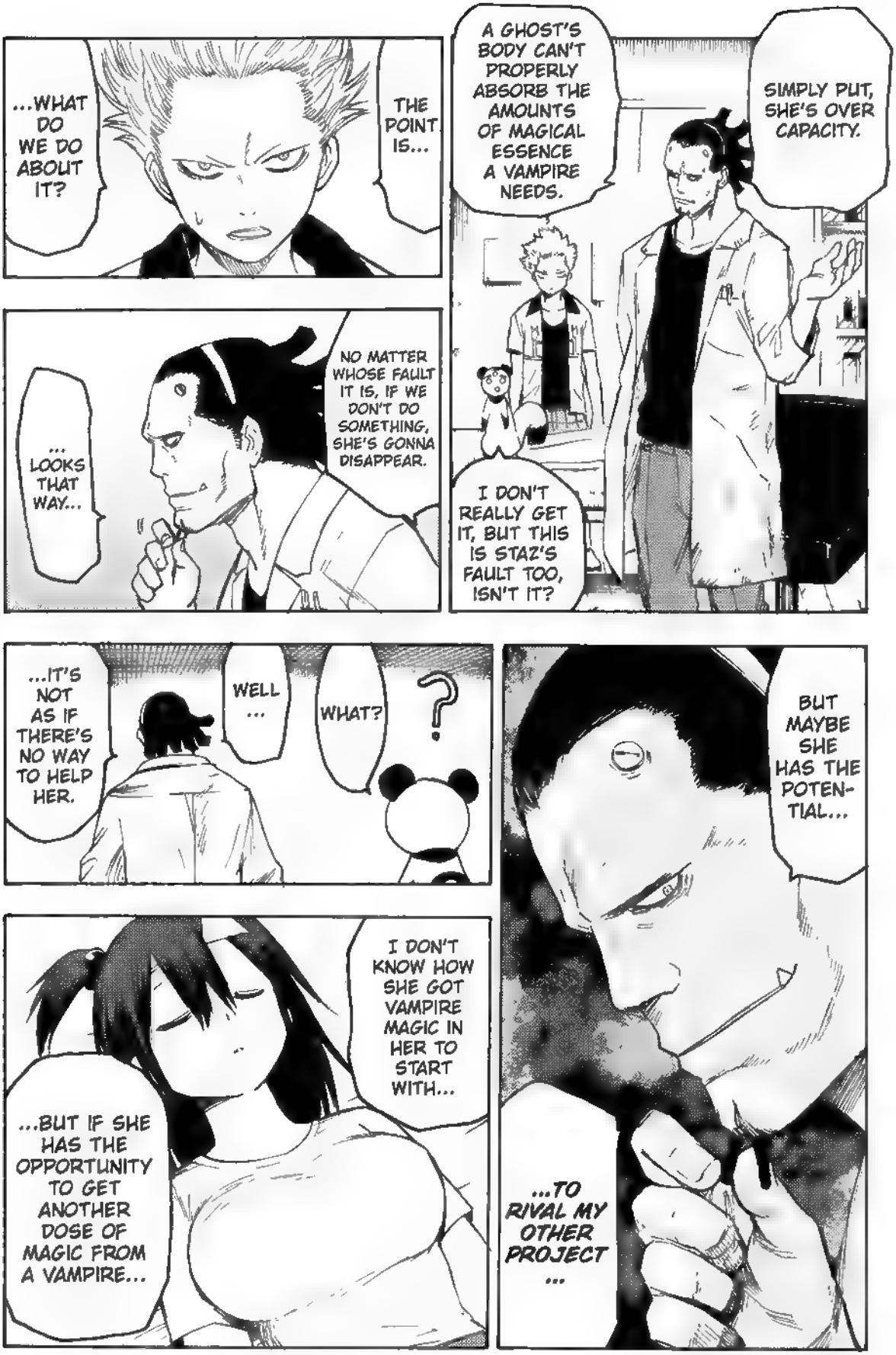
BUN IN THE OVEN!? MUFFINS!? BAGELS!?
YOU MEAN THAT!? SHE'S ALREADY, LIKE, PREG-NANT!?
HE HAD US ALL BELIEVING HE WASN'T INTER-ESTED IN HER!!
THAT BASTARD! SO HE'S SECRETLY A HUGE PERV!!
CALM DOWN, YOU TWO...
WHAT ARE YOU EVEN TALKING ABOUT...?



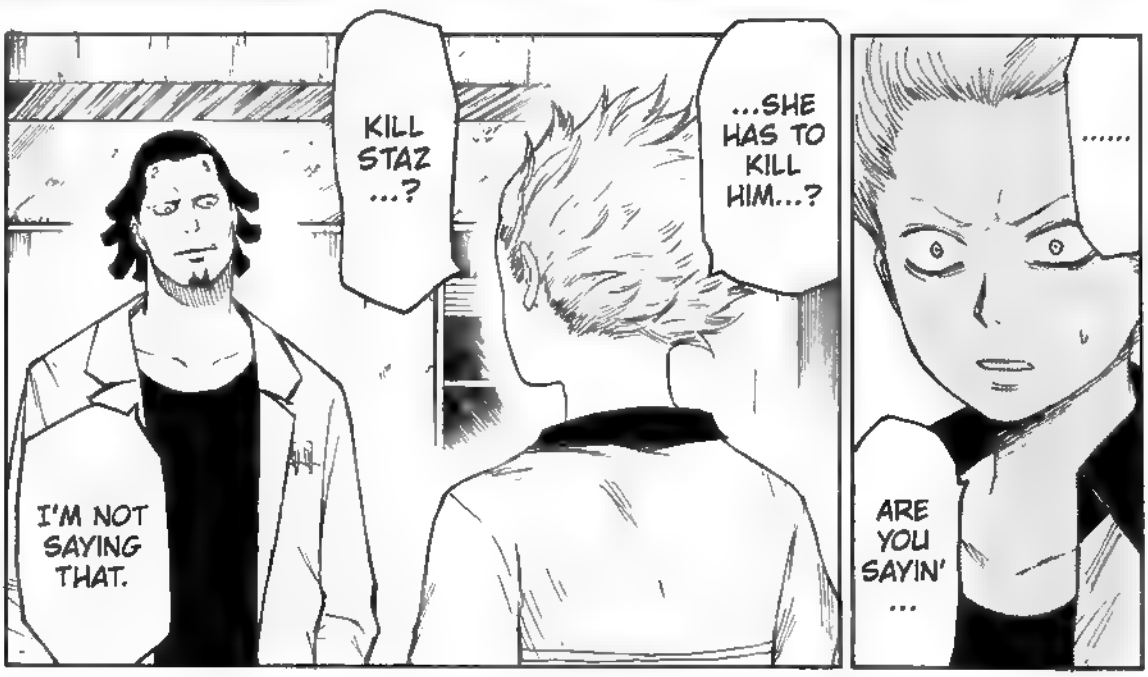
SFX: GATA (CLATTER)

BUT IN THIS GIRL'S BODY, THERE ARE OTHER TYPES OF MAGIC BESIDES JUST THE GHOST TYPE.
AND THAT'S PROBABLY WHY HER LEGS ARE DISAPPEAR-ING.


IT'S THE STUFF WE SYNTHESIZE IN OUR BODIES FROM THE "MAGICAL ESSENCE" THAT WE ABSORB FROM THE AIR HERE IN THE DEMON WORLD.
IN OTHER WORDS, EACH SPECIES OF DEMON GENERATES A SPECIFIC TYPE OF MAGIC AND NO OTHER, EVER.


...WHAT DO WE DO ABOUT IT?
THE POINT IS...
A GHOST'S BODY CAN'T PROPERLY ABSORB THE AMOUNTS OF MAGICAL ESSENCE A VAMPIRE NEEDS.
SIMPLY PUT, SHE'S OVER CAPACITY.
... LOOKS THAT WAY...
NO MATTER WHOSE FAULT IT IS, IF WE DON'T DO SOMETHING, SHE'S GONNA DISAPPEAR.
I DON'T REALLY GET IT, BUT THIS IS STAZ'S FAULT TOO, ISN'T IT?
...IT'S NOT AS IF THERE'S NO WAY TO HELP HER.
WELL ...
WHAT?
BUT MAYBE SHE HAS THE POTEN-TIAL...
I DON'T KNOW HOW SHE GOT VAMPIRE MAGIC IN HER TO START WITH...
...BUT IF SHE HAS THE OPPORTUNITY TO GET ANOTHER DOSE OF MAGIC FROM A VAMPIRE...
...TO RIVAL MY OTHER PROJECT ...

ENOUGH MAGIC TO CAPTURE THE ESSENCE OF WHAT MAKES A VAMPIRE A VAMPIRE.
...THEN SHE SHOULD TAKE EVERY LAST BIT OF IT.


I'M NOT SAYING THAT.
KILL STAZ ...?
...SHE HAS TO KILL HIM...?
.....
ARE YOU SAYIN' ...

...THEN, BY DRINKING ANOTHER TYPE OF MAGIC, THEY CAN ESSENTIALLY TURN INTO ANOTHER SPECIES.
LYCAN THROPE
MUMMY
ZOMBIE
VAMPIRE
IF ONE PROPERTY OF THE GHOST SPECIES IS THAT MULTIPLE TYPES OF MAGIC CAN COEXIST INSIDE THEM...

(GA) (GRAB)
QUIT JERKIN' AROUND!!

...BUT SHE COULD ALSO BECOME A VAMPIRE...
THAT IS, THIS GIRL CURRENTLY HAS THE BODY OF A GHOST...

...BUT SHE'LL BECOME A MON-STROUS-LY POWER-FUL HYBRID.
AND IF SHE DOES, NOT ONLY WILL SHE STOP DISAPPEAR-ING...

HE WON'T DIE.
HE'LL CONTINUE TO LIVE WITHIN THE GIRL'S BODY.
DOESN'T THAT MEAN STAZ'LL HAVE HIS MAGIC SUCKED OUT AND DIE!?
WHY DOES IT HAVE TO BE SOME WEIRD ASSIMI-LATION CRAP!?
...THAT IS THE ONLY WAY TO SAVE HER.
BUT...
SHUT THE HELL UP! THAT'S THE SAME DAMN THING!!
...SHE'LL DISAPPEAR FROM THIS WORLD FOREVER.
OR ELSE BEFORE LONG...

BEEEEEND!
GU
GU
GU
GU
GU (STRAIN)

IT'S HOPELESS!
HEE HEE...

DAMMIT... WON'T EVEN BUDGE.
PAH!
EVEN THOUGH I MADE IT SOUND LIKE THEY WERE BENDING.

I KNOW HOW YOU FEEL...
...BUT IT'S JUST A WASTE OF ENERGY, SEE?

SO YOU SHOULD JUST GIVE UP AND WORK OUT LIKE A PROPER PRISONER.
NOT THAT ANYBODY'S EVER GOTTEN FAR ENOUGH TO TRY.
EVEN IF YOU COULD ESCAPE FROM THE CELL, THERE'S NO WAY TO GET FROM THIS PRISON TO THE OUTSIDE WORLD.

HEY!
PUSH IT.
.....
THERE'S THIS BUTTON ON THE WALL THAT LOOKS LIKE I REALLY REALLY SHOULDN'T PUSH IT...
WHAT IS IT...?
HEE HEE!
HEE HEE!
HEE HEE!
BWA-HA-HA! HE FRICKIN' PUSHED IT!
HE WOULD!!
BEEEEEP!
BEEEEEP!
POCHI
CPUSHD

Prisoner no. 1097639, please proceed down the hall promptly.
SO IT OPENS THAT WAY...
Prisoner no. 1097639, you have pushed the Challenge Button!!
GO GO GO GO GO GO GO GO GO GO
Prisoner no. 1097639!
GO GO GO GO GO GO (RUMBLE)
.....
TALK TO YOU SOON... IF YOU LIVE!
GO AND DIE WITH HONOR!
WELL, GIVE IT YOUR BEST SHOT!
OUR CONDO-LENCES.
OOOOOO (WHOOOO)
.....
WHAT THE HELL IS GOING ON...?

GAA (SLIDE)
CHIN (CLINK)
GOO (WHIRR)
KOO (FWOOH)
THAT TOOK YOU LONG ENOUGH...

SAY WHAT-EVER YOU WANT.
NOT EVEN HESITATING TO GO ALCATRAZ ON YOUR OWN BROTHER...
...JUST... EXACTLY HOW MUCH DO YOU HATE ME?
ABUSING PRIVILEGE IS BAD FOR YOUR SKIN. SO'S THAT WEIRD MASK.
YOU SHOULDN'T USE SPELLS YOU HAVE SPECIAL DISPENSATION FOR ON MERE COMMONERS.
IF YOU WERE WORTHY OF CALLING YOURSELF MY BROTHER...
YOU WERE NO MATCH FOR MY MAGIC. NO BETTER THAN A DEMON WORLD COMMONER.
SO WHAT'S THIS ROOM FOR? HAVING FAMILY SPATS OVER A PICNIC?
NO!
YOU'RE ONE TO TALK.
ALL YOU CAN COME UP WITH ARE PETTY INSULTS?
...WE WOULDN'T BE HAVING THIS CONVER-SATION.

KUI (FWP)
I CAN TELL YOU ONE THING YOU'LL LIKE.
YOU CAN LEAVE THIS PRISON ANYTIME YOU WANT.
ALL YOU HAVE TO DO...
BOKO
BOKO (BURST)
...IS PUSH THE BUTTON, COME TO THE CHALLENGE ROOM...
ZU
ZU (LOOM)
...AND BEAT THEM.

SO YOUR LESSON TODAY IS THAT YOU'RE THE SAME...
...AS THE REST OF THE TRASH IN HERE.
BUT NO ONE EVER CAN.

GA
GA (CHOMP)

THEY'RE FAST...!!
WHA ...?

ニカ
NIKA (SMIRK)
THOUGHT WE'D BE SLOWER, DIDJA?
NEVER UNDER-ESTIMATE ZOMBIES!

BA
BA (WHIP)
ZA (SKID)

DOBA (BOOM)
TCH.
HE GOT US!
UGYA!
GASHI (GRAB)
WHOA!
PSYCH!
GEBOO (BLEGH)
WHO ...?
HUH ...?

ガシッ
GASHI (GRAB)
DOGO (WHAM)
MY LEGS!
HEY!
YAY!
SUTON (SHMP)
ストン
クイ
KUI (TWIST)
DIDJA SEE THAT ZOMBI-NATION?
GEHO (COUGH)
ゲホッ
WHAT'S THAT? YOU WANNA SEE SOME MORE?

DO (THUD)

WE'LL LET YOU WALK AWAY WITH YOUR LIFE.

GUESS HE DOES!

BAKYA (POW)

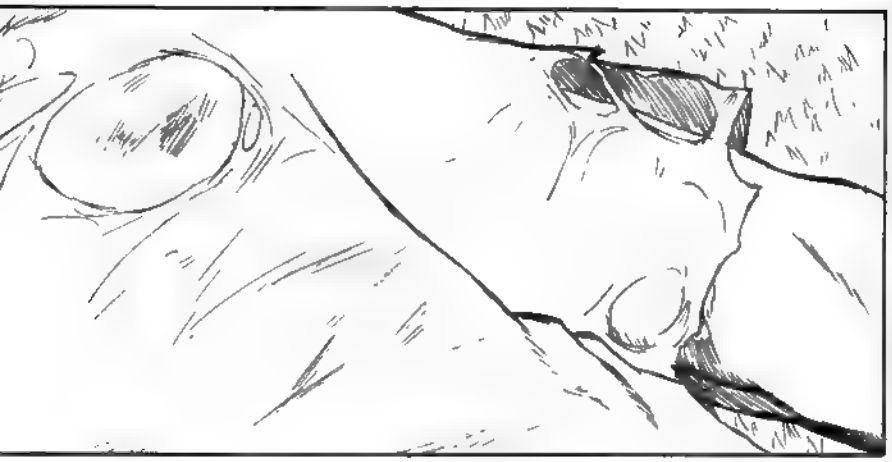
GASHA (CRASH)

DOBA (WHAM)

GA (WHACK)

SO COME SEE US AGAIN SOMETIME! ☆

DO
(THUD)
WE'LL LET YOU WALK AWAY WITH YOUR LIFE.



GUESS HE DOES!
BAKYA
(POW)
GASHA
(CRASH)
DOBA
(WHAM)
GAN
(WHACK)

SO COME SEE US AGAIN SOMETIME! ☆

.....
...LIZ-SAMA...
THAT WAS OVER TOO FAST...
THERE, WE'RE ALL DONE, LIZ-SAMA.
FUYUMI...
AW, DON'T I ALWAYS GET THE LEGS?
YOU GET HIS LEGS...
AYE, AYE!
JUST TAKE HIM BACK TO HIS CELL, LIKE USUAL.
...IT LOOKS LIKE I MIGHT DIE INSTEAD...
HE HAD THAT THE WHOLE TIME.
HMM? WHAT'S THIS BOOK DOIN' HERE?
INSTEAD OF BRINGING YOU BACK TO LIFE...

LIVING IN THE DEMON WORLD

SATY'S EVERYDAY LIFE

...KNOWN AS SATY-CHAN.
THE GIRL WHO'S JUST AWOKEN IS THE MISTRESS OF THE ESTABLISH-MENT...
MUKU (RISE)
PACHI (BLINK)
THIS TIME, WE'LL PUT THE SPOTLIGHT ON THE THIRD EYE...
...THE CAFÉ STAZ IS KNOWN TO FREQUENT, WHICH WE MENTIONED LAST TIME.
SIGN: THIRD EYE
...IS HER PARTNER, MAME-JIROU.
AND THE ANIMAL STILL ASLEEP BESIDE HER...
...BUT MAME-JIROU HAS QUITE A BIT.
SHAKO (BRUSH)
AND THEN ...
SATY-CHAN HAS LITTLE TO SAY...
YA KNOW?
SHAKO
SHE LOOKS AT HIM.
JI (STARE)
AND, AS IF HE HAS SENSED HER STARE...
YAWN ...
...THEY ARE PERFECTLY-SUITED PARTNERS WHO COM-MUNICATE WELL.
YOU THINK SO TOO, DON'TCHA, SATY?
WHILE IT MAY LOOK LIKE A ONE-SIDED CONVER-SATION...
... MAME-JIROU WAKES UP.
OH. MORNING, SATY.

SHE LOOKS AT IT.
じっ…
JI (STARE)

IT LOOKS LIKE SHE'S DOING THE SHOPPING NOW.

HEY, CAN I HAVE THAT CANDY?

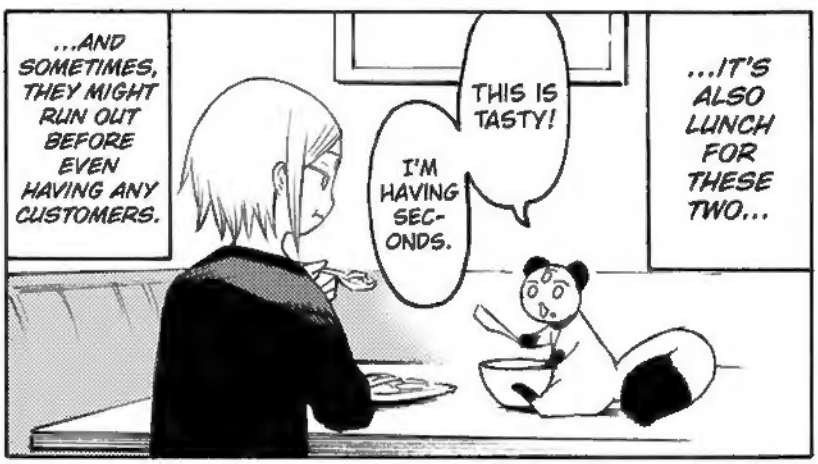
AND SHE'LL TAKE THAT ONE.
ス
SU (TOSS)

…THE PROVISIONS IN THE CART THERE WILL END UP ON THE MENU AS TODAY'S SPECIAL.
THROUGH SATY'S HARD WORK…
WELL, THEN I'LL MAKE DO WITH THIS ONE.

じっ…
JI
…OH, FINE.
RE-QUEST DENIED.

ジャ
JA (SIZZLE)
HOW-EVER …

カラン
KARAN (JANGLE)
カラン
KARAN
UH-OH.
ACK!


…AND SOMETIMES, THEY MIGHT RUN OUT BEFORE EVEN HAVING ANY CUSTOMERS.
THIS IS TASTY!
I'M HAVING SEC-ONDS.
…IT'S ALSO LUNCH FOR THESE TWO…

IF IT'S REALLY GOOD, YOU SHOULD BE SERVING IT TO CUSTOMERS ...
TODAY'S IS REALLY GOOD!
YOU CAN'T HAVE ANY!
HEY, THAT LOOKS PRETTY TASTY.
WHY'RE YOU SAYING "UH-OH" WHEN A CUSTOMER WALKS IN?
A REGULAR ARRIVES.
FUJISAN
NOOO! THAT'S MY SECONDS!!
YOU'RE ALWAYS THE NICE ONE, SATY-CHAN.
SU (SHOOP)
SHE LOOKS AT THEM.
JI
LOOK WHO'S TALKING! I'M A PAYING CUSTOMER!
YOU DAMN FREELOADER!!
YOU ALREADY HAD SOME!
JUST BE SATISFIED WITH YOUR SMALL-ANIMAL-SIZED PORTION!
GIVE IT BACK!!
SIGN: CAFÉ & BAR THIRD EYE
.....
AND, AS IF SENSING HER STARE...
...THESE TWO STOP FIGHTING.
CAN WE GO HALVSIES?
END
FUJISAN

BLOOD LAD 2

YUUKI KODAMA

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